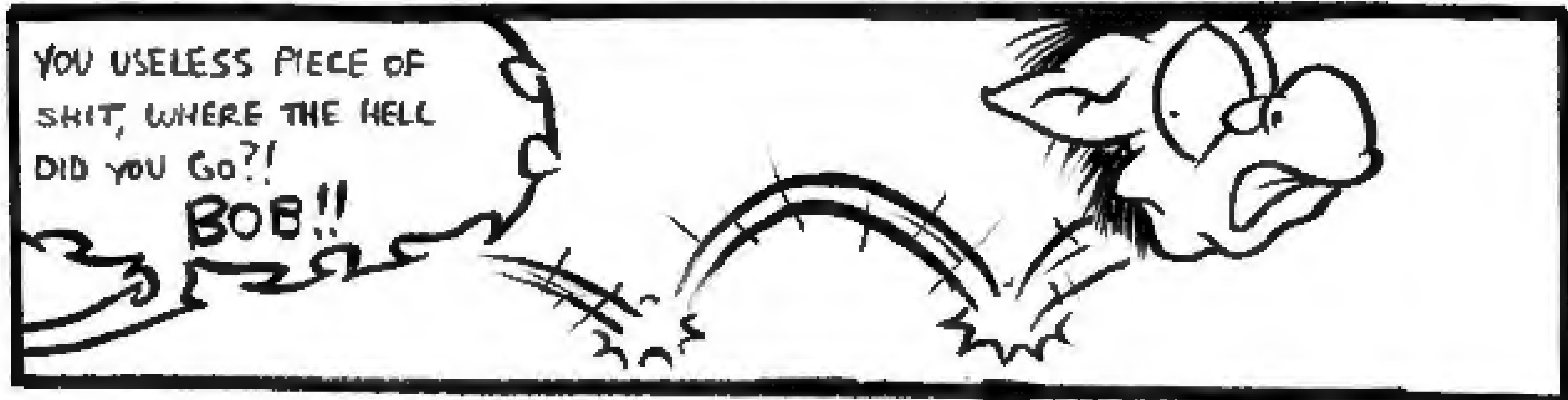


BOB!

ROBERT!  
WHERE  
ARE YOU?!

XLIV

CHOOSING SIDES...



YOU USELESS PIECE OF  
SHIT, WHERE THE HELL  
DID YOU GO?!  
BOB!!



THERE'S NOTHING  
LEFT TO EAT!!



FOR YOUR SAKE, YOU BETTER ALREADY BE OUT THAT  
DAMNED DOOR HUNTING...



WHERE ARE YOU,  
YOU LAZY,  
DICKLESS  
BASTARD?!

GOD DAMN IT, ROBERT,  
WHERE ARE YOU??



IF YOU'RE ASLEEP  
SOMEWHERE, I  
SWEAR TO GOD!

BOB!!

HE WILL BE HERE SOON 'CAUSE THAT'S THE MAGIC OF  
FRIENDSHIP... "WILL HE BE MY FRIEND TOO?"

I DON'T KNOW NUTTERFLY... PERHAPS IF WE ALL CUT OFF  
TWILIGHT SPRINKLE'S HEAD MY FRIEND WILL LIKE YOU TOO.  
"XY BEST FRIENDS FOREVER"

BOB!

BE HERE SOON... MY FRIEND  
WILL BE HERE SOON

LITA, I REALLY NEED  
TO TALK TO YOU

NO YOU DON'T.

LITA, I'M SORRY. I'M  
REALLY REALLY SORRY.

CLIFF, WE'RE DONE  
TALKING...

GET BACK IN THE  
REAR AND COVER OUR  
FLANK.

IS IT TRUE? THAT WOMAN HE  
KILLED IN THE REFUGEE CAMP—

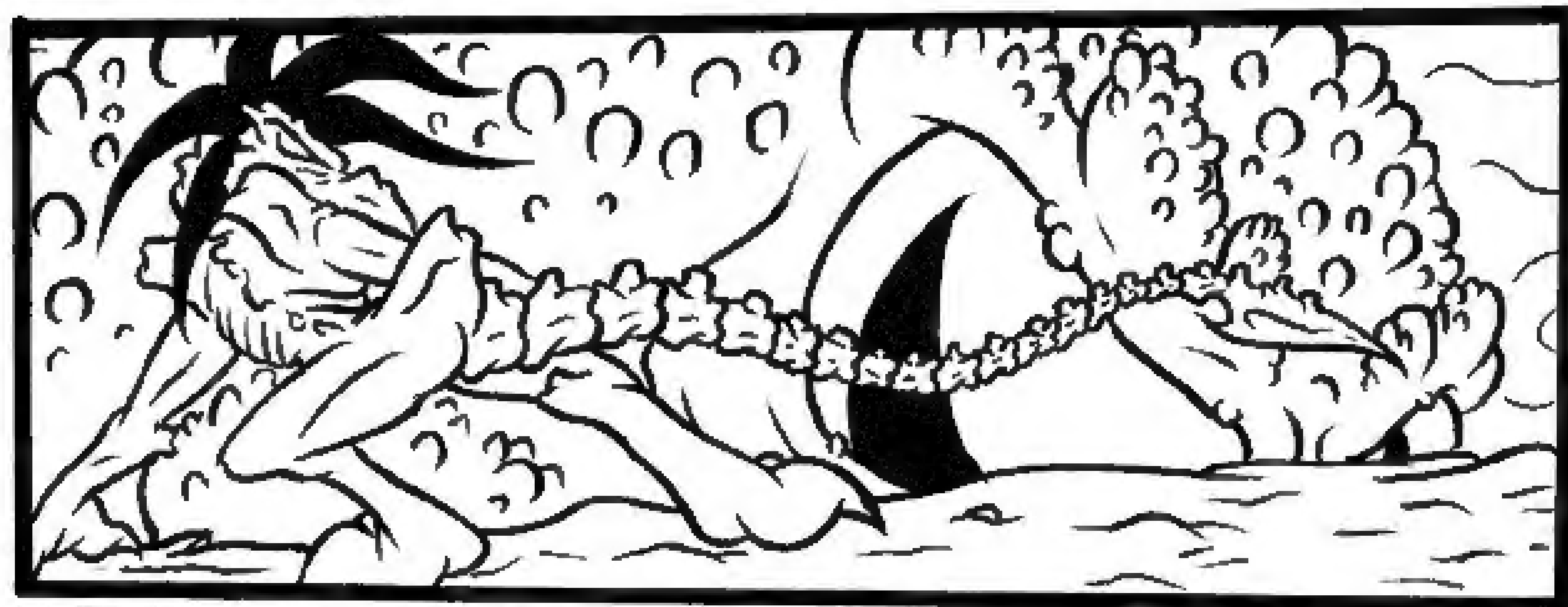
YEAH, CALLING HER  
BY MY NAME THE  
WHOLE TIME.

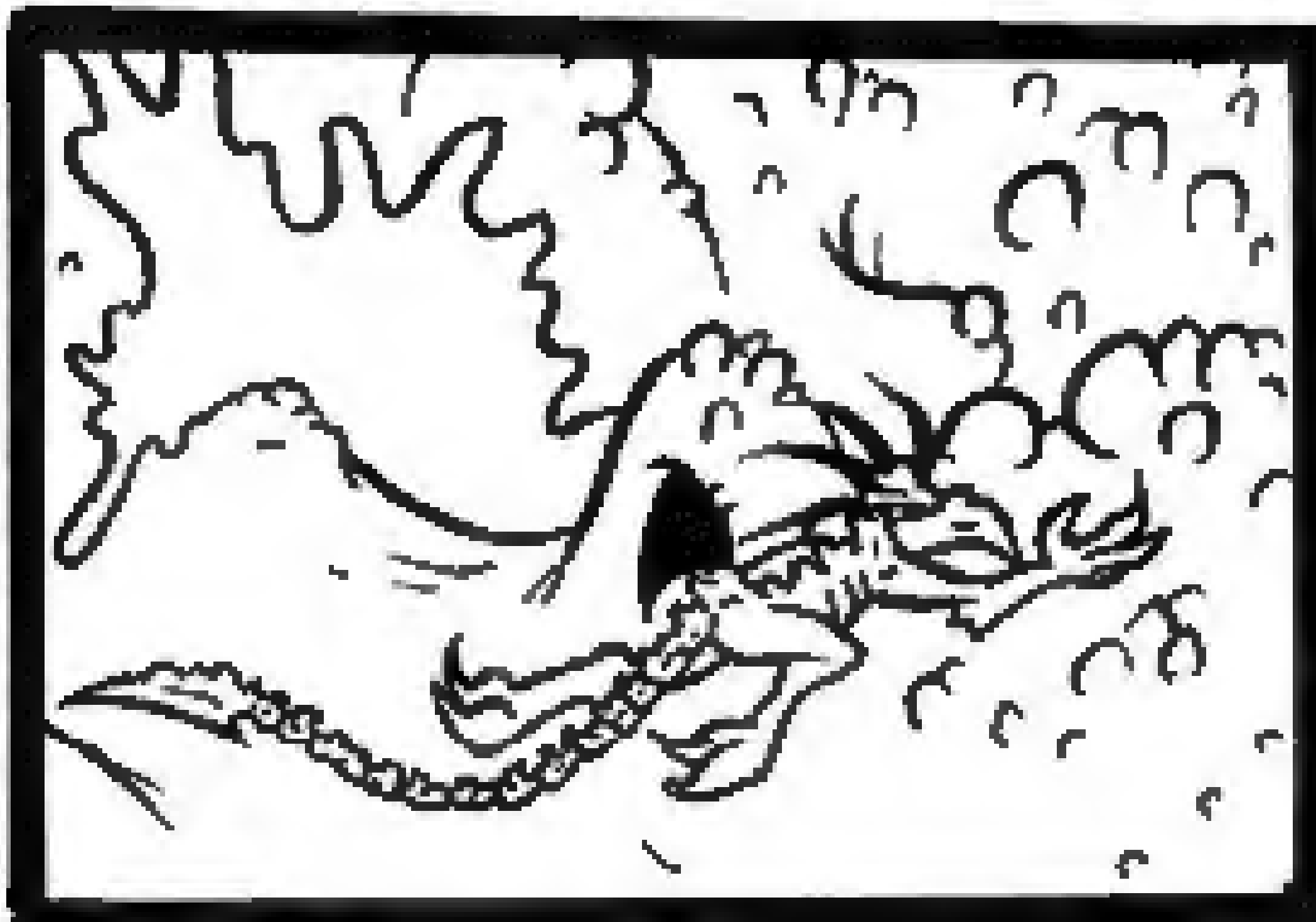
I'VE GOT ENOUGH SHIT TO WORRY ABOUT RIGHT NOW WITHOUT  
CARRYING HIS BAGGAGE TOO. IF IT WEREN'T FOR THE FACT WE  
NEED ALL THE HELP WE CAN GET RIGHT NOW, I'D BE DONE WITH  
HIS SORRY ASS.

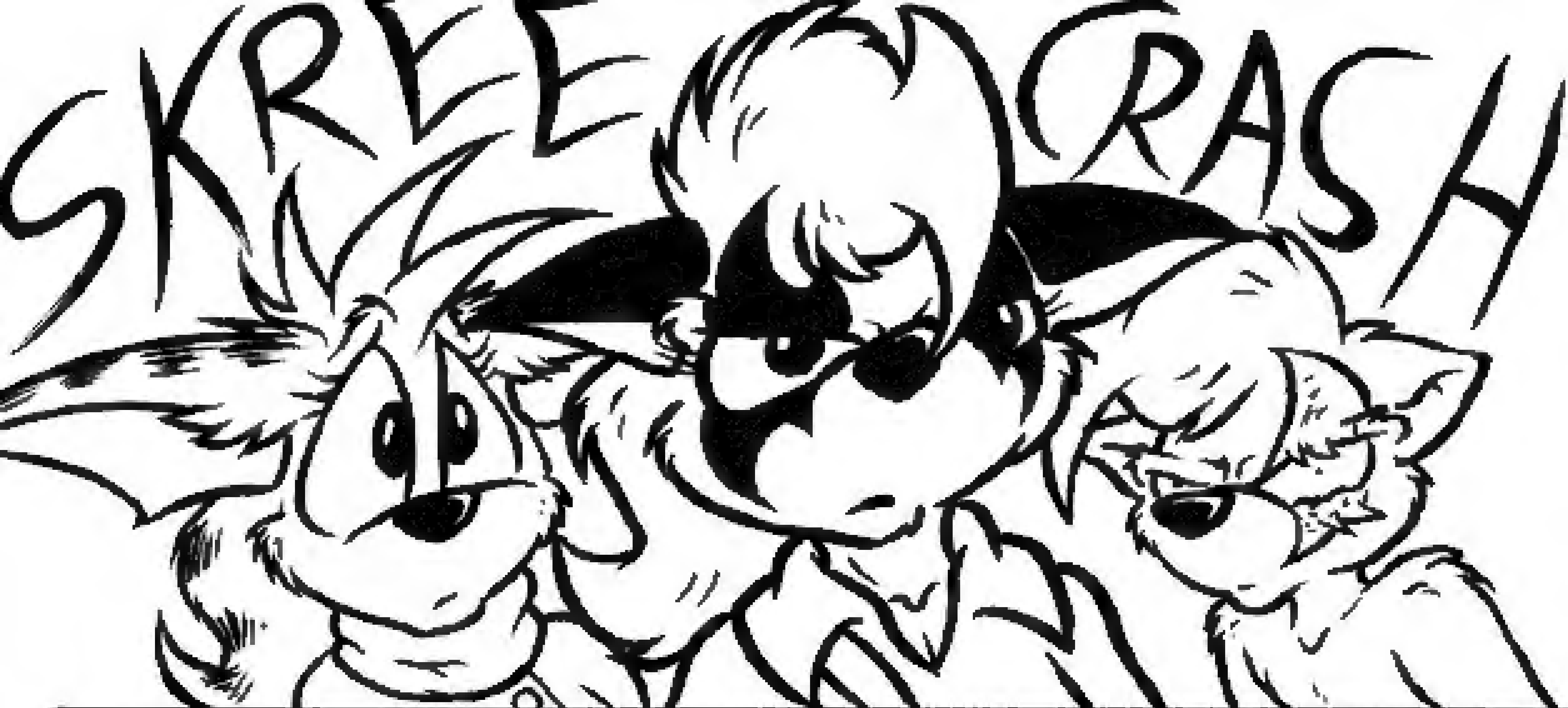
WELL, WE'RE MAKING GOOD TIME, AT LEAST. THE CAVE SHOULD BE JUST AROUND THE NEXT—











TAKE ME TO YOUR  
LEADER...

SO WHERE DO  
WE STAND WITH HER?

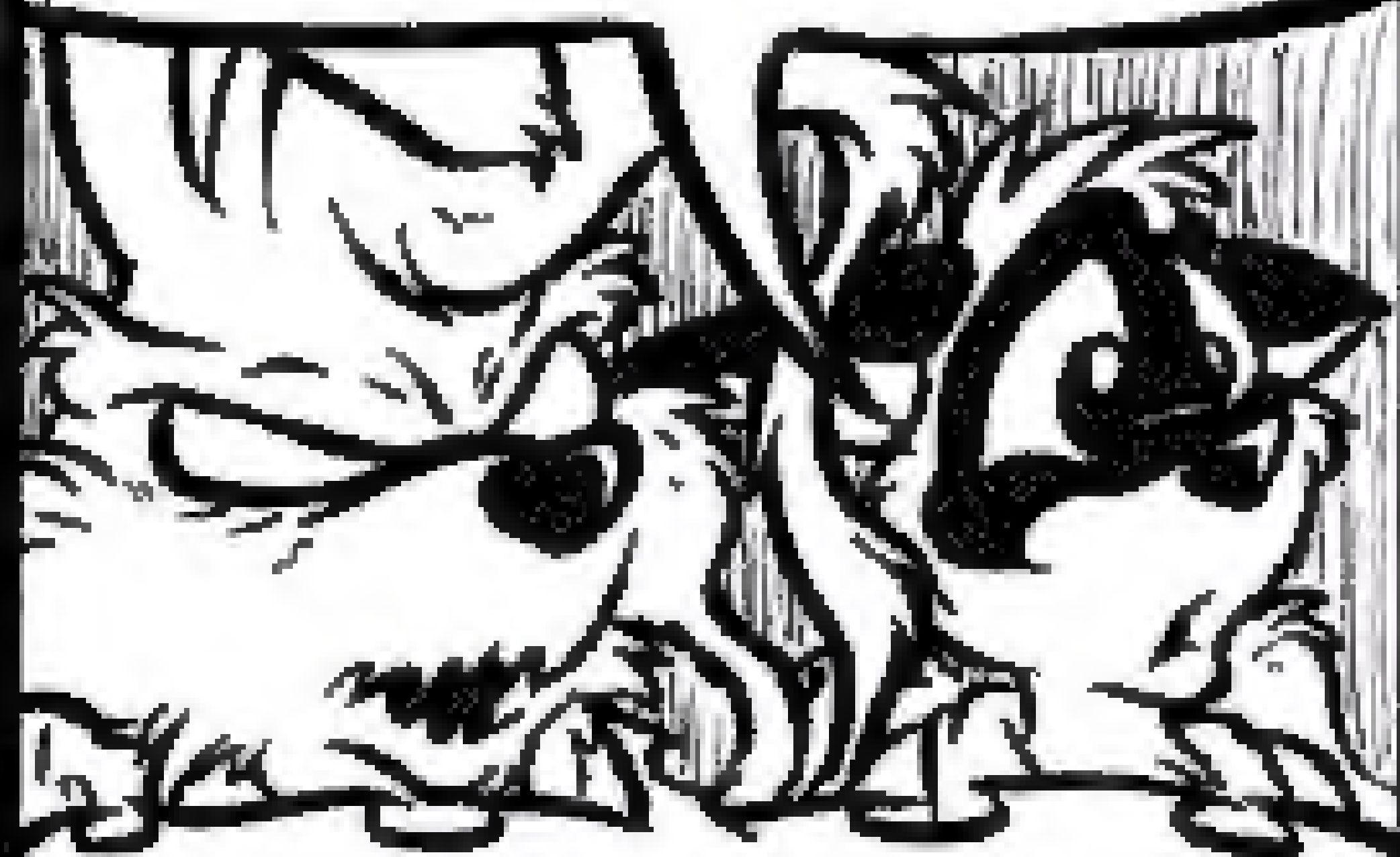
VANITY CONTINUES TO BE NAIVE  
AND REFUSES TO TAKE SIDES.

HER TOWER HAS TO BE A TEMPTING TARGET  
FOR KANE. THE POWER SHE COLLECTED FROM THE  
SOULS SHE HAS TRAPPED UNDERNEATH... IF IT CAN  
CHANGE HELL'S LANDSCAPE, WHO KNOWS WHAT ELSE  
IT COULD DO.

NULLIFYING THE TOWER IS OUT OF THE  
QUESTION. THE SOULS TRAPPED UNDER IT ARE  
TOO DEEPLY INTEGRATED WITH IT. SEPARATING  
EACH SOUL TAKES A LONG TIME.

I AGREE WITH RECKONIN, KANE'S  
NEXT MOVE WILL BE TO TAKE  
VANITY'S TOWER AND THAT IS  
WHERE I MUST FACE HIM.

I'VE BEEN WORKING WITH JACK'S GROWING ARMY. THEY ALL SEEM DEDICATED, BUT THERE ARE VERY FEW PROFESSIONAL SOLDIERS. KANE OUTNUMBERS THEM FIVE TO ONE.



BEAR IN MIND THAT HELL'S BATTLEFIELD IS LIKE NO OTHER. NUMBERS MATTER LESS THAN THE ABILITY TO RETURN RESPAWNED TROOPS TO THE FRONT.



GRANTED, BUT I THINK ITS TIME WE DISOUSED HEAVEN TAKING ON MORE THAN JUST A SUPPORTIVE ROLE IN THE COMING CONFLICT.

BOSS? THE NEW RECRUITS ARE HERE...

I'LL MEET WITH THEM ONCE I FINISH HERE, LITA...

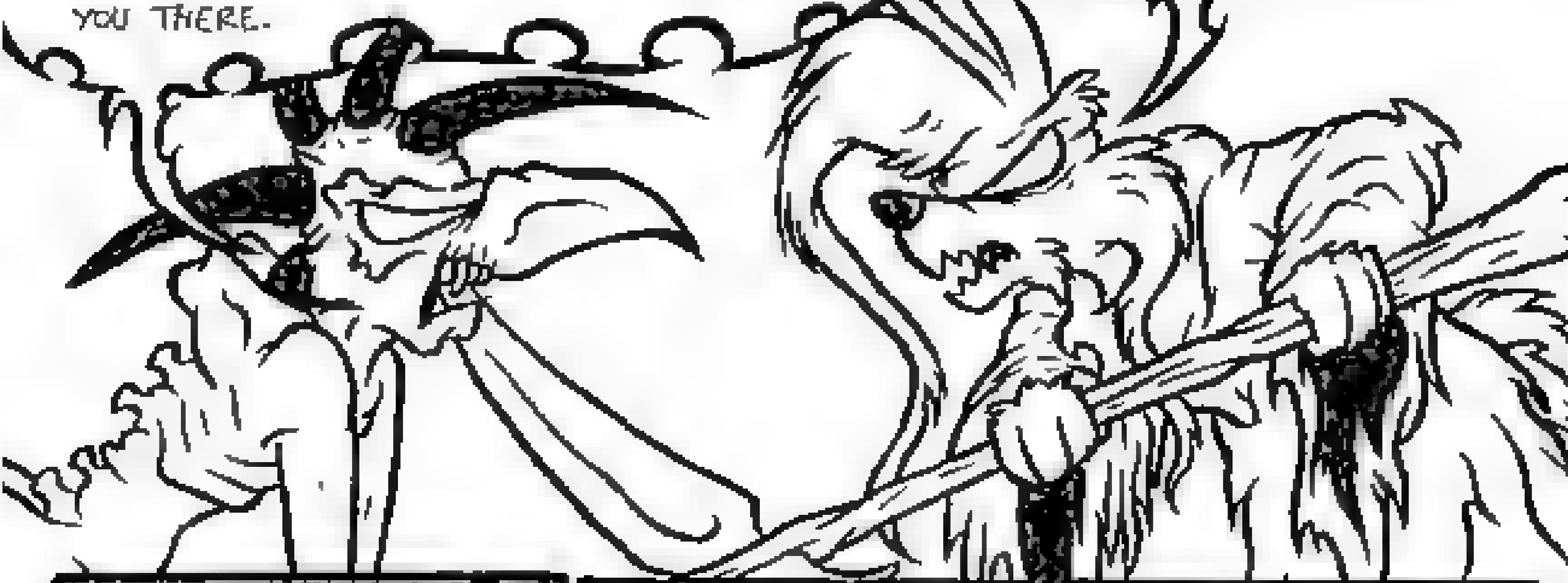


UH HUH...WELL, I GOT A FEELING YOU'RE GONNA WANT TO MEET THIS GUY RIGHT NOW.



YOU ARE CORRECT, KANE'S NEXT GOAL IS VANITY'S TOWER. HOWEVER, HE KNOWS ABOUT YOUR REVOLT AND IS COUNTING ON FIGHTING YOU THERE.

REALLY, THEN WHY WAIT? HE COULD JUST AS WELL ATTACK US NOW.



HE'S WAITING FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF SEVERAL PIPELINES TO RETURN RESPAWNED TROOPS TO THE BATTLEFIELD. YOU WILL NEED TO DESTROY THESE PIPELINES WHEN THE BATTLE STARTS TO STAND A CHANCE.

YOU HOLY ROLLERS BETTER DO MORE THAN JUST TALK ABOUT HELPING. NOSTRUM HAS KANE CONVINCED HE CAN USE VANITY'S TOWER TO TRAVEL TO THE OTHER THREE REALMS, INCLUDING HEAVEN, AND IF THAT CRAZY FUCK SAYS HE CAN DO IT, YOU CAN BET ON IT.



AND YOU'RE GOING TO SHOW US WHERE THESE "PIPELINES" ARE BEING BUILT?

WE CAN LEAVE RIGHT NOW, IF YOU LIKE.



YOUR OFFER TO HELP US IS WELCOME, BUT YOU WILL UNDERSTAND IF EVERYONE HERE IS SKEPTICAL.



IT'S ABOUT HER, OF COURSE... MY "BETTER HALF"...

I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU WANT ME TO SAY OTHER THAN I'M SWITCHING SIDES. I'LL FOLLOW JACK'S ORDERS AND PASS ALONG ANY INFORMATION ABOUT KANE'S PLANS I COME ACROSS. I DON'T CARE IF YOU TRUST ME OR NOT, I'M NOT GOING BACK.



IT ISN'T AS IF ITS UNHEARD OF FOR A SIN TO SEEK REDEMPTION.

I DON'T GIVE A FUCK ABOUT REDEMPTION.

THEN WHAT IS PROMPTING THIS CHANGE IN HEART?



LISA!!

... WE WERE DRIVING CROSS COUNTRY TO ESCAPE THE AUTHORITIES.



WE WERE IN OUR FOURTH  
YEAR OF BEING ON THE MOST  
WANTED LIST..

I RECALL WE WERE  
ACTUALLY DECENT TO EACH  
OTHER WHEN WE CROSSED  
OVER INTO CANADA.

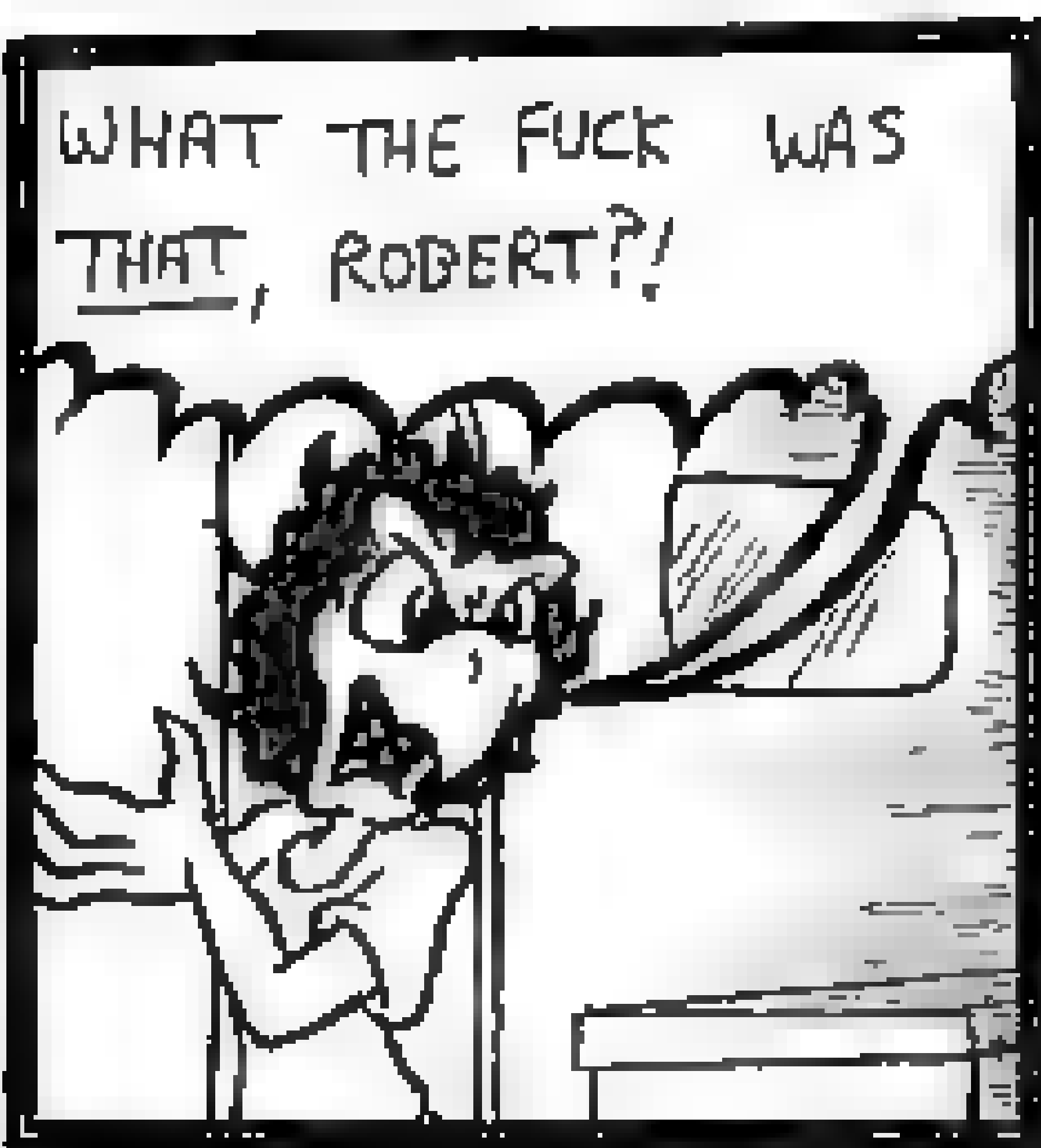
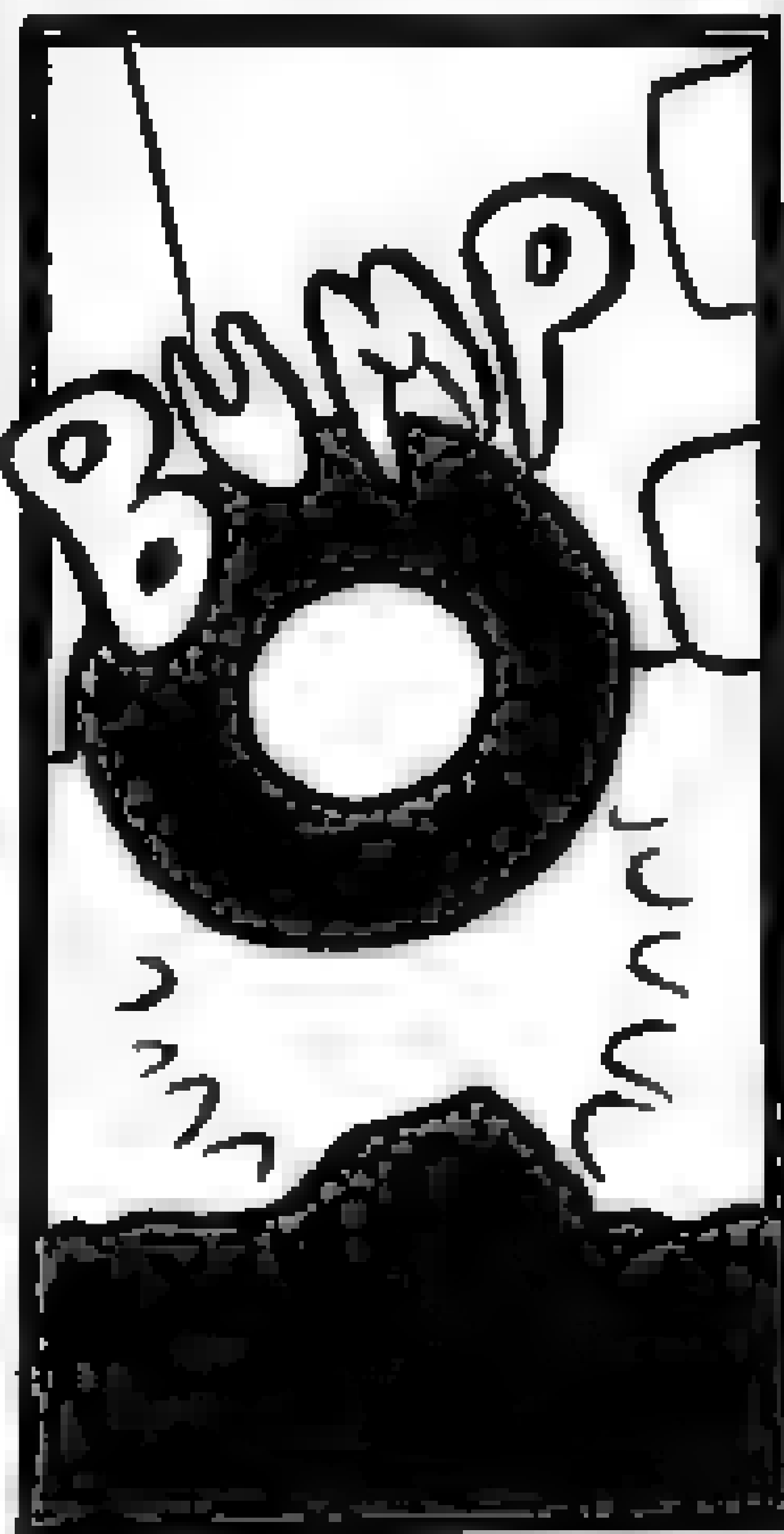
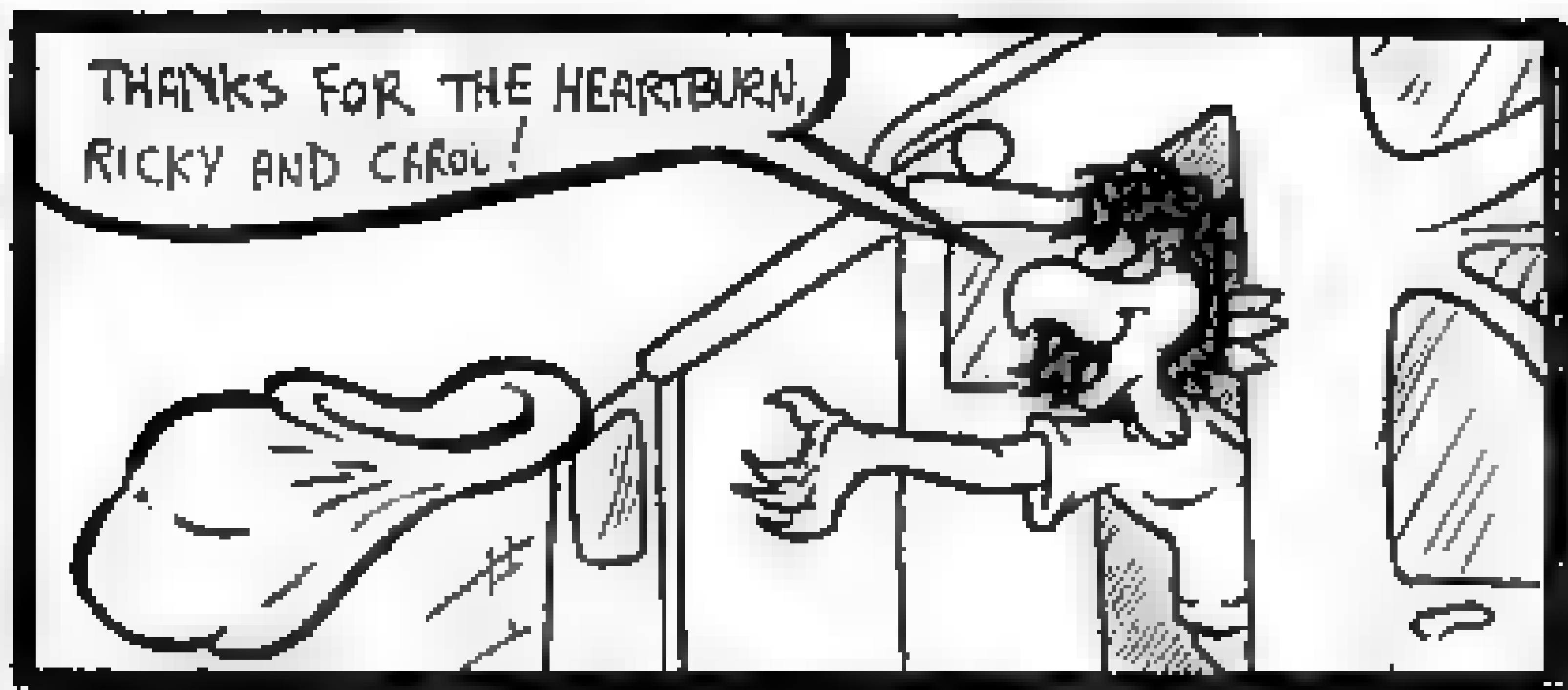
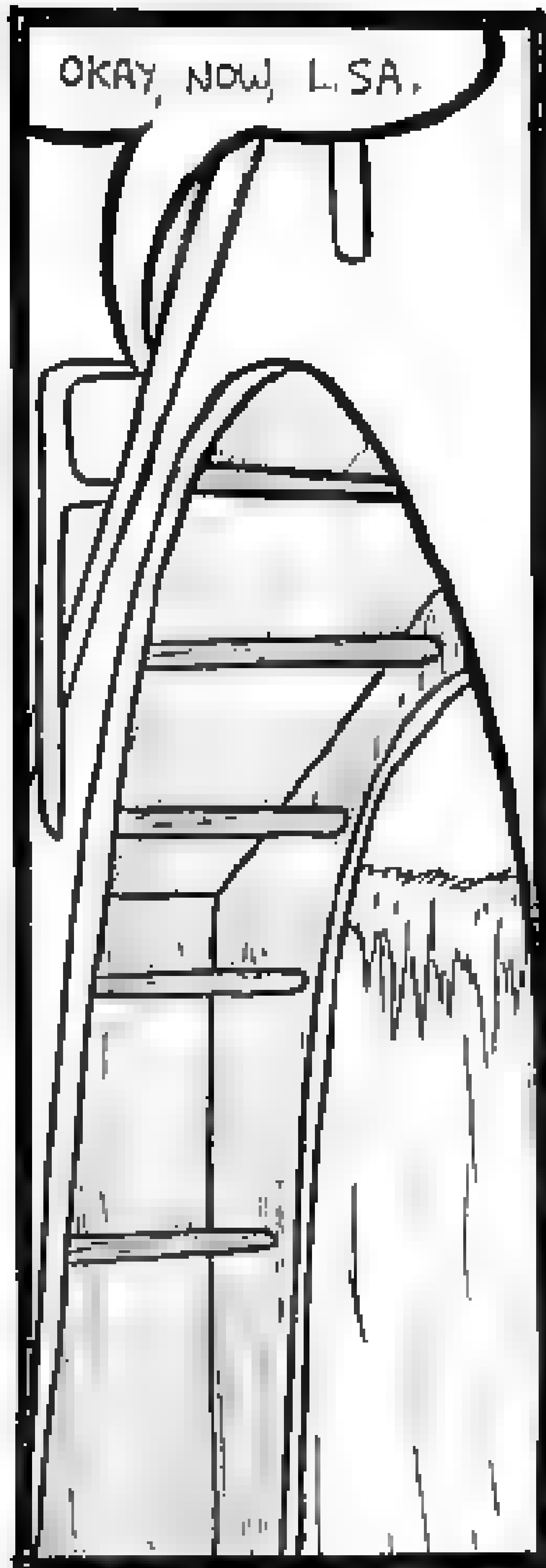
I WAS DRIVING .. LISTENING TO  
THE OLDIES STATION. I THINK  
"SWEET CITY WOMAN" WAS PLAYING.

LOVE, TENDERNESS  
AND MACAROONS

LISA WAS IN THE BACK FINISHING UP WITH  
THE RV'S FORMER OWNERS

LISA? BRIDGE  
COMING UP.

REA-DYY ♡



WE HAD ALWAYS  
FOUGHT...

DO YOU EVER LISTEN TO YOURSELF?! WHY THE  
FUCK WOULD I DO THAT?



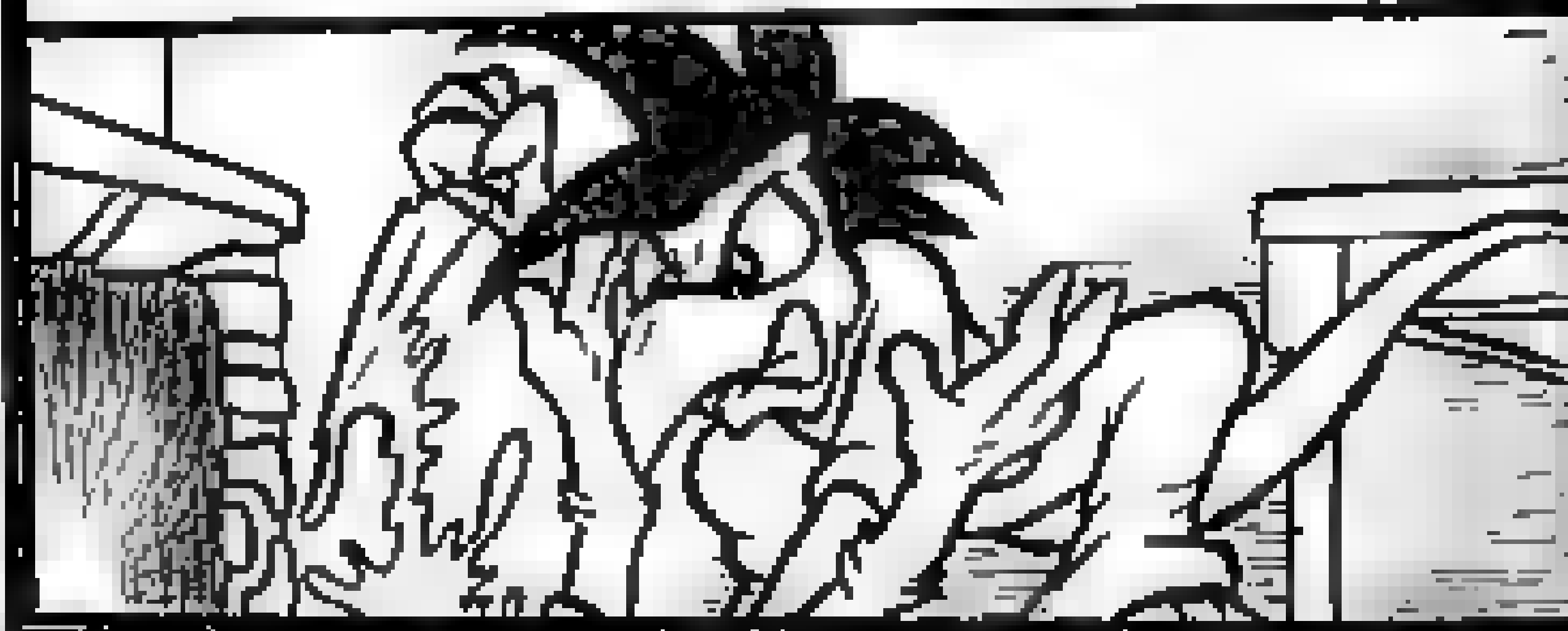
WHY WOULDN'T YOU?! LIKE  
YOU WOULDN'T TAKE A CHANCE TO SHAKE  
ME OFF IF YOU COULD. I'M NOT STUPID,  
YOU FUCKING DOUCHECANOE!

BUT IT BECAME WORSE THE MORE  
WE REALIZED WE WEREN'T TOGETHER  
BECAUSE WE LIKED EACH OTHER.

THAT EVENING, WE DITCHED  
THE RV AND FOUND A HOME  
THAT HAD JUST BEEN MOVED  
INTO.



THE NEW OWNERS NEVER SAW  
IT COMING.

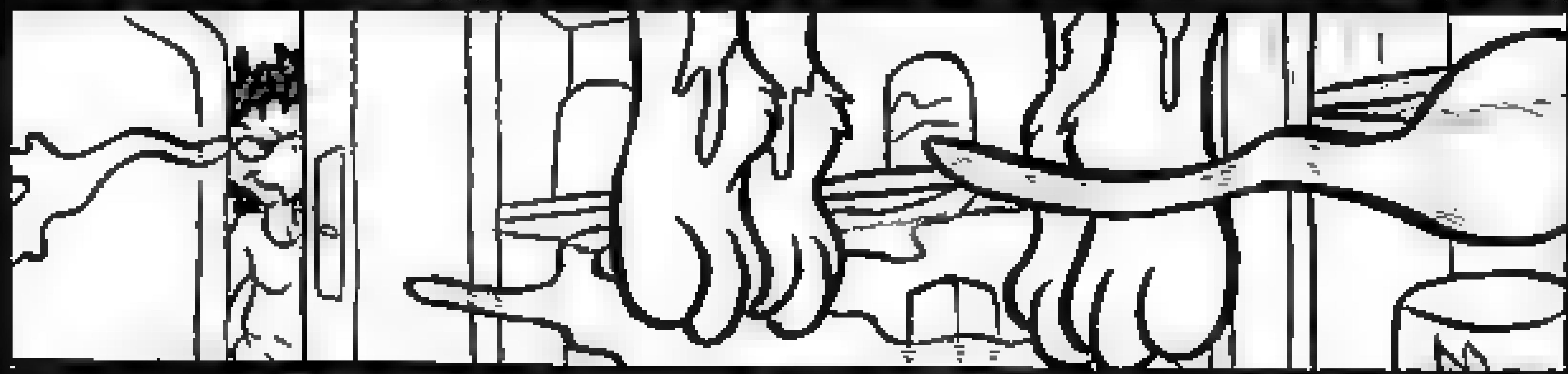


WE FIGURED WE COULD BORROW THEIR IDENTITIES  
FOR A FEW DAYS AND LEAVE BEFORE ANYONE  
STARTED TO QUESTION THINGS.



IT HAD WORKED BEFORE.

YOU CAN'T IMAGINE HOW EXCITED WE WERE WHEN WE DISCOVERED THAT THIS HOUSE HAD A WALK-IN FREEZER IN ITS BASEMENT. THE FIRST OWNER RAN A DAIRY BUSINESS OUT OF HIS HOME. THE POOR BASTARDS THAT BOUGHT IT WERE ALREADY STORING THEIR PERISHABLES IN IT, WE STORED SOMETHING ELSE.



IN THE MORNING, A MOVING TRUCK ARRIVED AND THE WORKERS DIDN'T BAT AN EYE WHEN WE GREETED THEM AS THE OWNERS



WHILE HELPING THE MOVERS, I MET THE NEW NEIGHBOR 'BRANGER'.

HEY THERE,  
YOU MOVIN'  
N?

YEAHUP



WHAT HAPPENED TO THE  
FOLKS THAT SHOWED UP  
YESTERDAY?

FRIENDS OF OURS,  
THEY CAME AHEAD  
OF US WHILE WE TIED  
A FEW LOOSE ENDS OFF  
BACK HOME TO KEEP AN  
EYE ON THINGS  
OVERNIGHT.



TOO BAD. THE WIFE WASN'T TOO  
HOT, BUT HER ASS LOOKED LIKE IT  
COULD TAKE IT. YA KNOW  
WHAT I MEAN?

YEAH.  
SURE..



ROBERT, WHAT THE HELL IS  
KEEPING YOU?! THAT TRUCK'S  
NOT GOING TO UNLOAD ITS—



—OH.



HELLO, I'M LISA.  
THIS IS ROBERT.



BRANGER. WELCOME TO  
THE NEIGHBORHOOD.

I HAD LEARNED TO TELL WHEN SHE WAS  
FLIRTING TO BUTTER UP THE NEXT MEAL  
AND WHEN SHE WAS FLIRTING BECAUSE SHE  
WANTED TO FUCK...

WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU  
STARING AT?!  
GET INSIDE!



SHE HADN'T FUCK-FLIRTED  
WITH ME IN A LONG TIME...



BUT SHE MADE IT CLEAR SHE WAS  
GOING TO BANG THAT DOUCHEBAG AND  
I WAS BEYOND CARING.



BEFORE I  
GO ON...

I WANT TO ASK  
YOU ANGELS  
SOMETHING.

ITS KINDA BEEN  
EATING AT ME.

GO AHEAD. I KNOW WHAT  
YOU'RE GOING TO ASK.

I HEARD WHAT  
HAPPENED TO FANGS

WAS IT  
YOU?

YES.

HRNN.  
THOUGHT  
SO.

WELL, THANKS FOR  
THAT.

NO, NO. IF YOU SWING TOO WIDE, YOU'LL  
JUST LEAVE YOURSELF OPEN TO—

LITA!

WANT ME TO  
STAY?

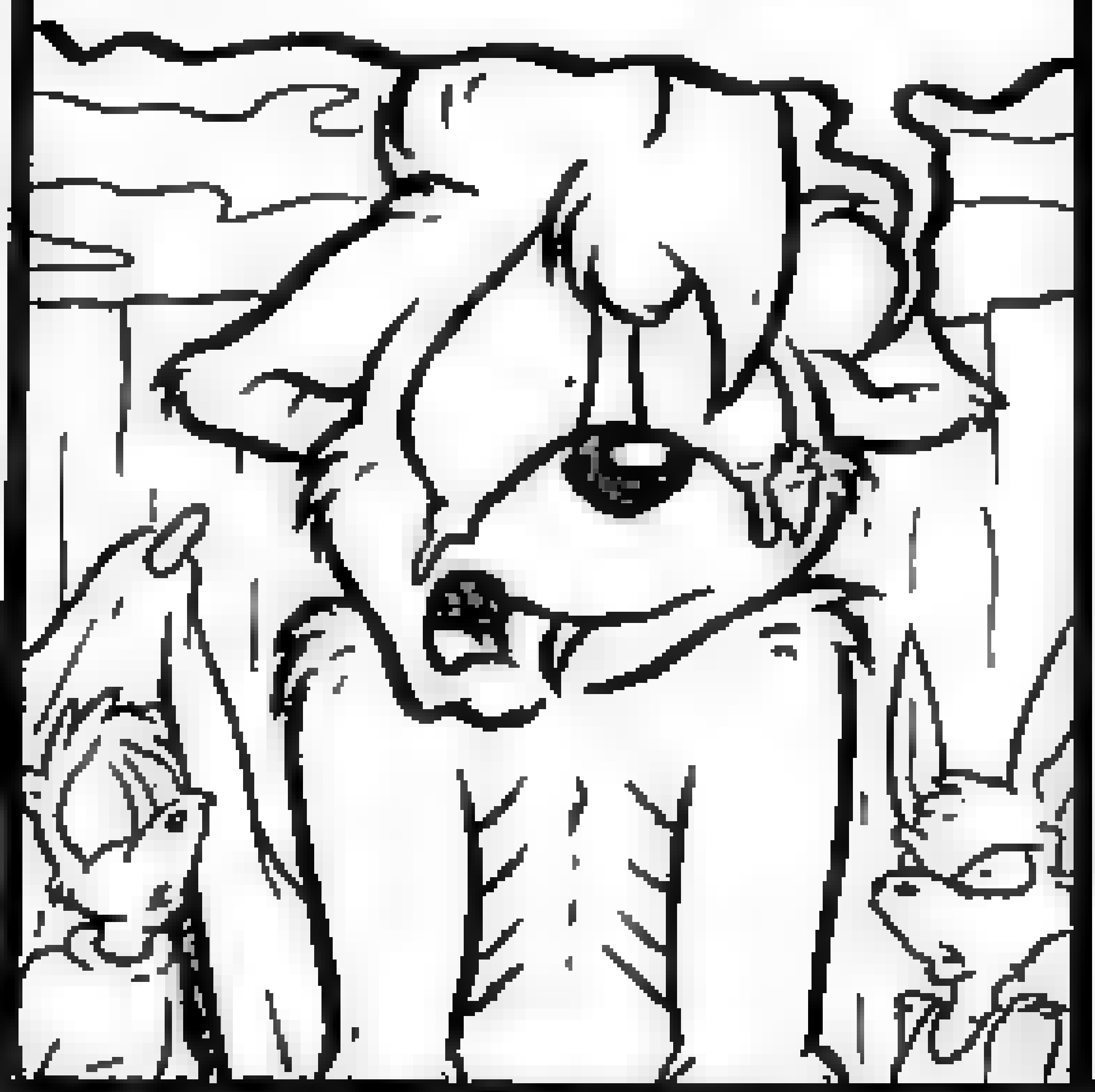
NO. TWONE, YOU BETTER  
TAKE OFF. THIS MIGHT  
GET UGLY..

LITA, PLEASE! I CAN EXPLAIN. I WAS UPSET, YES. ANGRY WITH YOU, EVEN, BUT—

NO! YOU SHUT THE FUCK UP. I DON'T CARE.

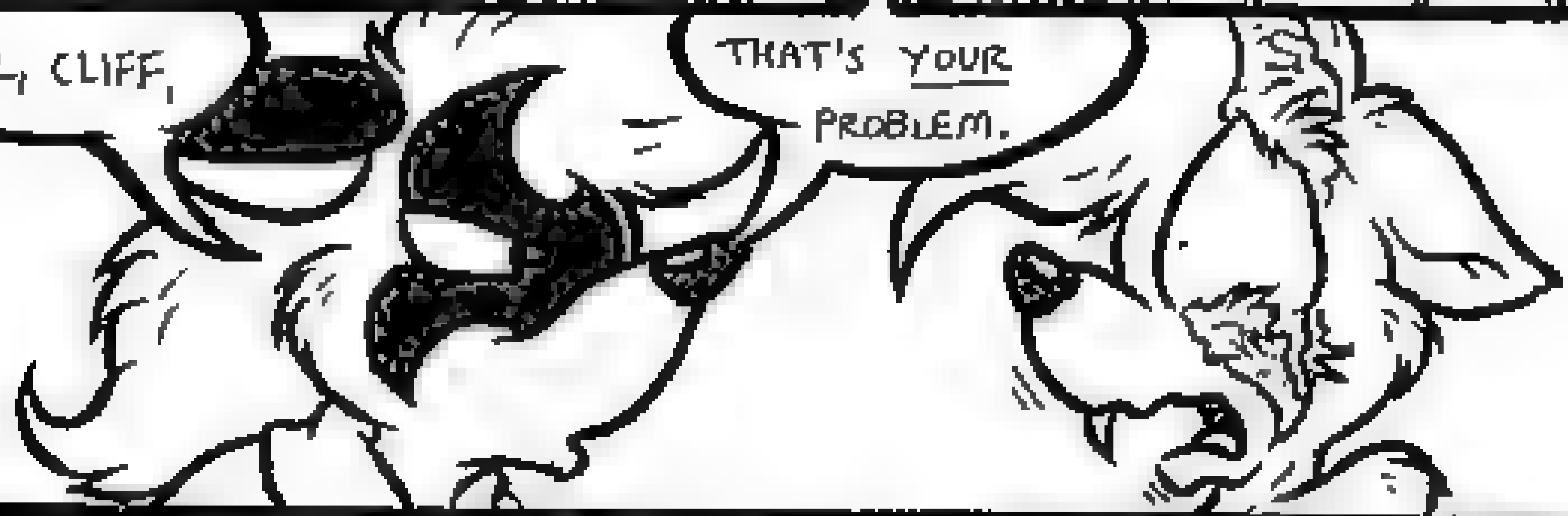


LITA..... I LOVE YOU...



WELL, CLIFF,

THAT'S YOUR PROBLEM.



BUT... BUT...

SO, ANYWAY...



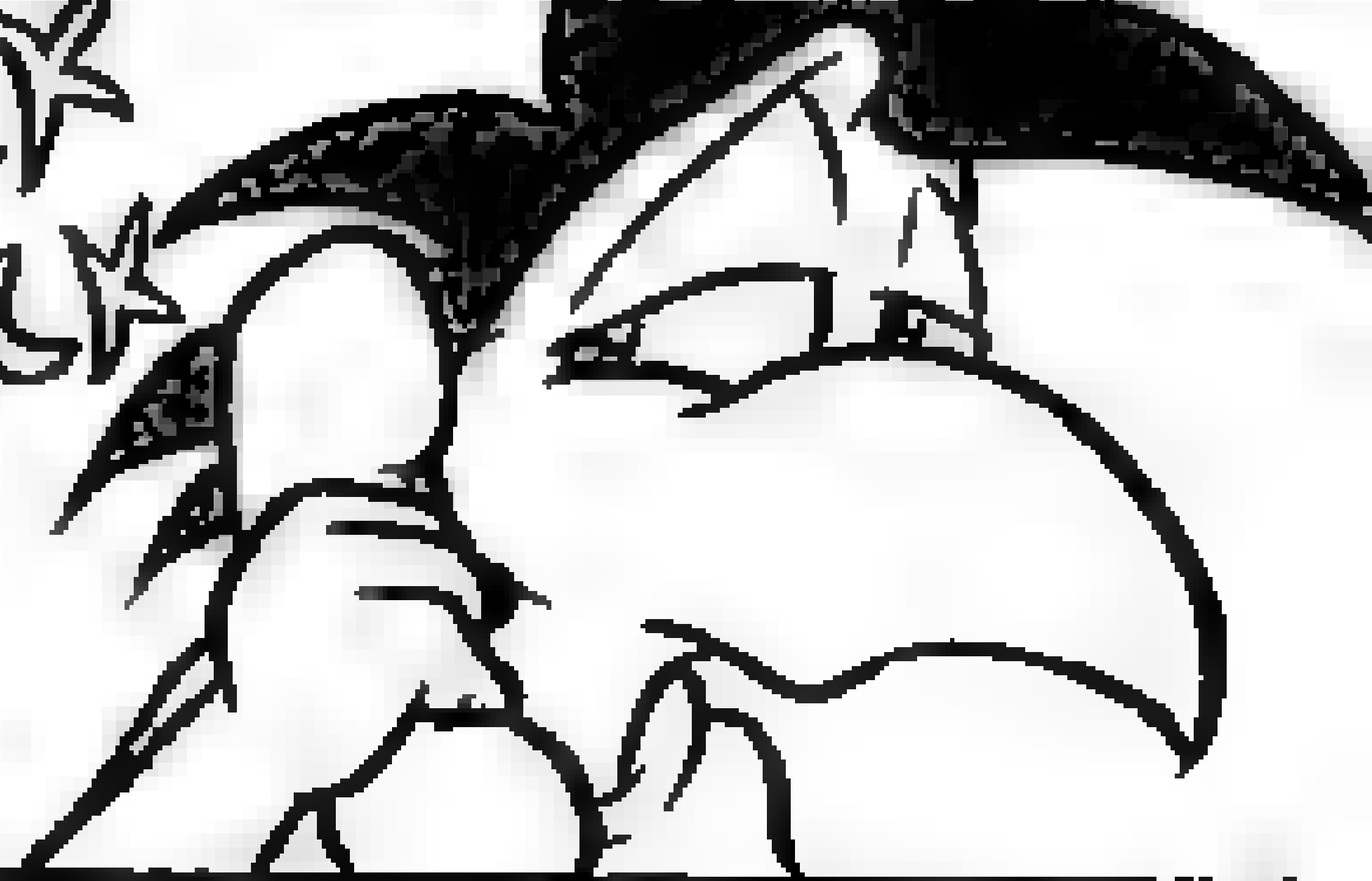
IT WAS LATER THAT AFTERNOON. LISA HAD FINISHED FLIRTING.

I WAS UNPACKING BOXES OF  
STUFF THAT WASN'T MINE

YES THIS IS 3825. NO...THIS  
IS THE DEGIST RESIDENCE. WELL,  
I'M SORRY BUT WE'VE LIVED HERE  
FOR YEARS. UH HUH. YOU TOO.  
'NIGHT.



KNOCK  
KNOCK



UHM...  
HELLO?

HELLO..



I DIDN'T THINK MUCH  
OF ELIE WHEN I  
FIRST MET HER.

SHY, FIDGETY, AND  
COULDN'T LOOK ME  
IN THE EYE...

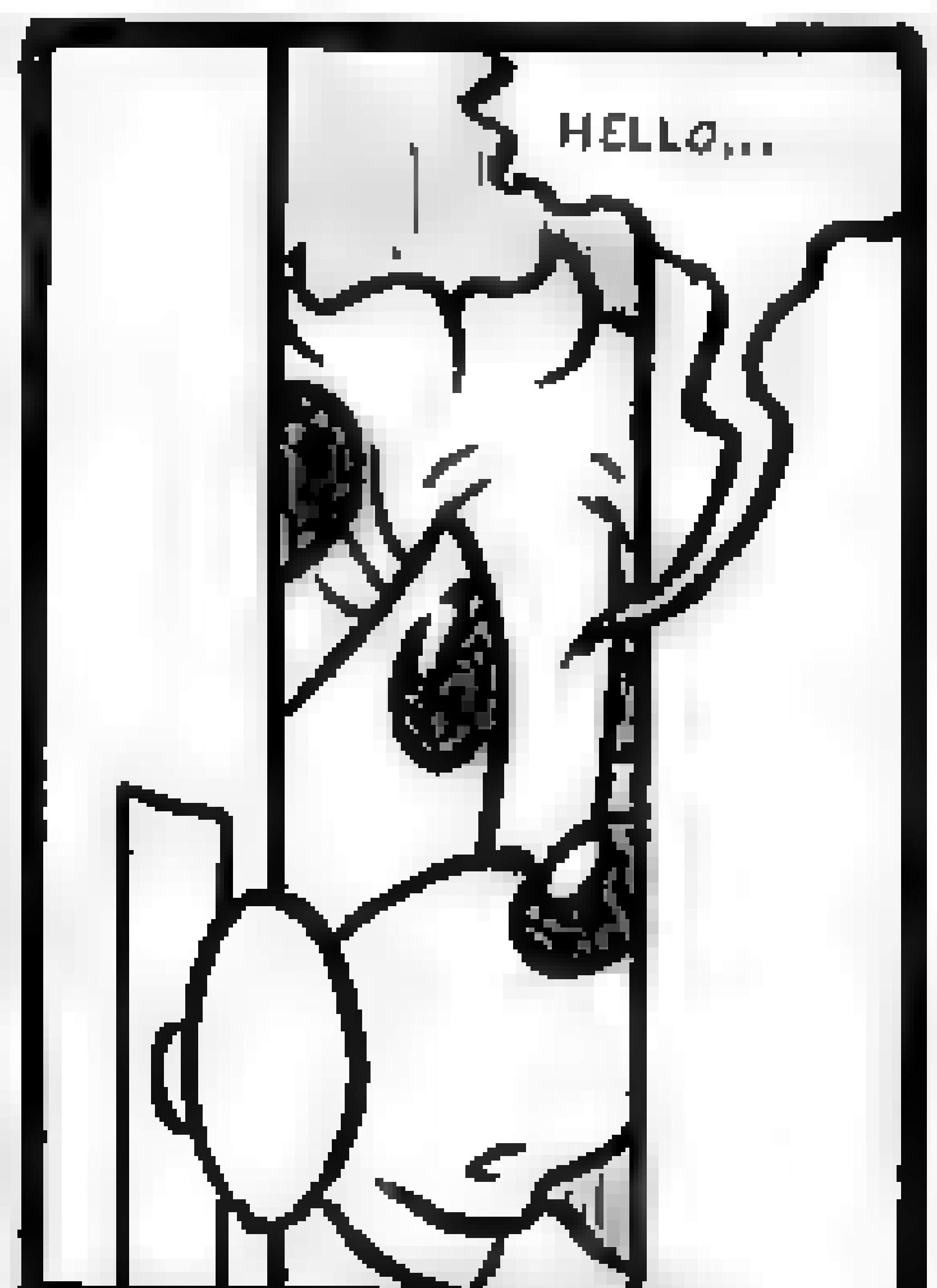
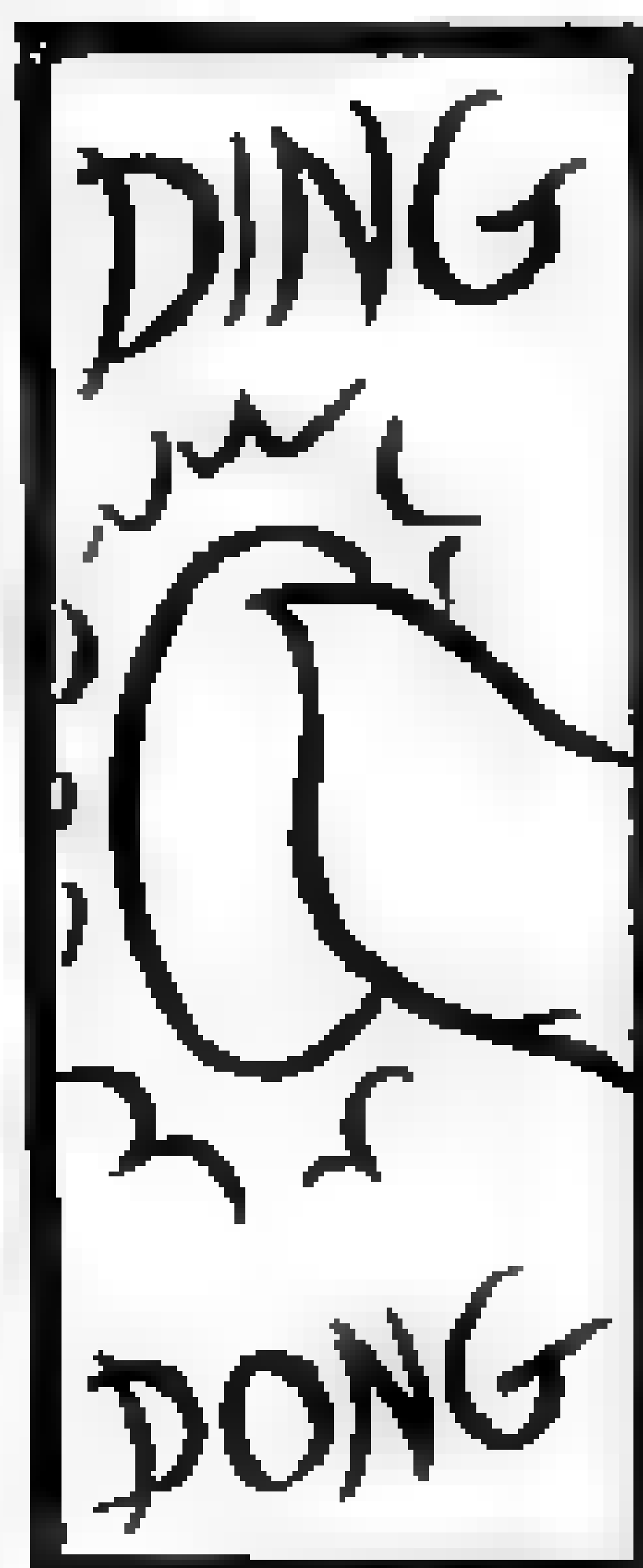
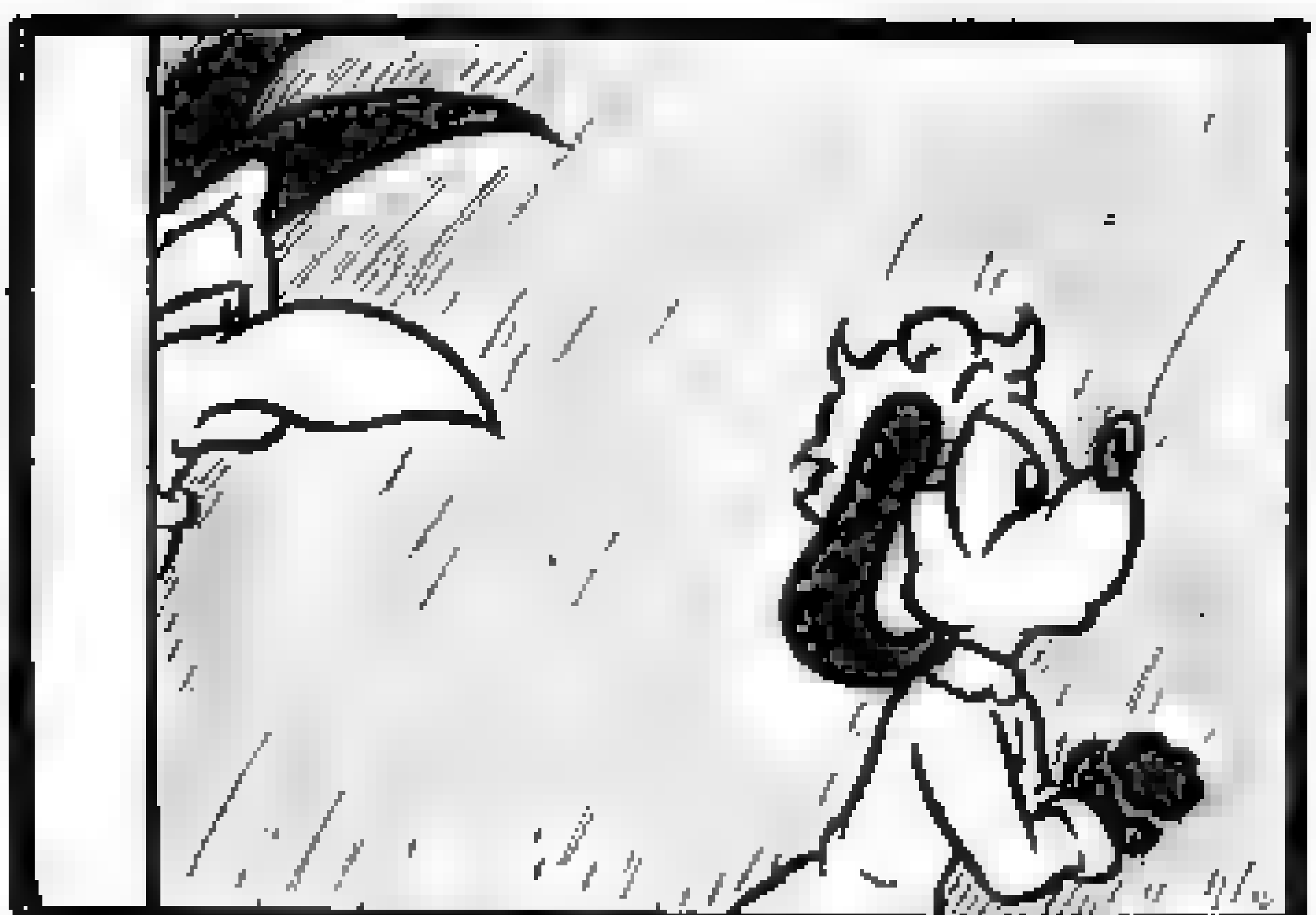
I REMEMBER THINKING  
THERE WASN'T EVEN  
ENOUGH MEAT ON HER TO  
LAST US A DAY.

MY HUSBAND WANTED ME  
TO ASK YOU AND YOUR WIFE  
OVER FOR DINNER TONIGHT.



UH... THANKS, BUT I DON'T  
THINK— TELL HER  
WE'LL BE  
THERE !!







HOW'S YOUR DINNER, ROBBY?

IT'S FINE. I'VE JUST NEVER HAD SYNTH MEAT AGREE WITH ME.



HEAR THAT? SOUNDS LIKE YOUR DINNER'S A FLOP WITH THE NEIGHBORS.



HMM? WHY DON'T YOU SAY IT SO THEY CAN HEAR YOU?

I- I'M SORRY.



DON'T BE RUDE, ROBERT, FINISH EATING.

MR. BRANGER? SINCE WE'RE BOTH DONE, YOU HAD SAID YOU WOULD SHOW ME THE DECK?



OH! YEAH, FOLLOW ME.

RIGHT OUT HERE  
PRETTY LADY.

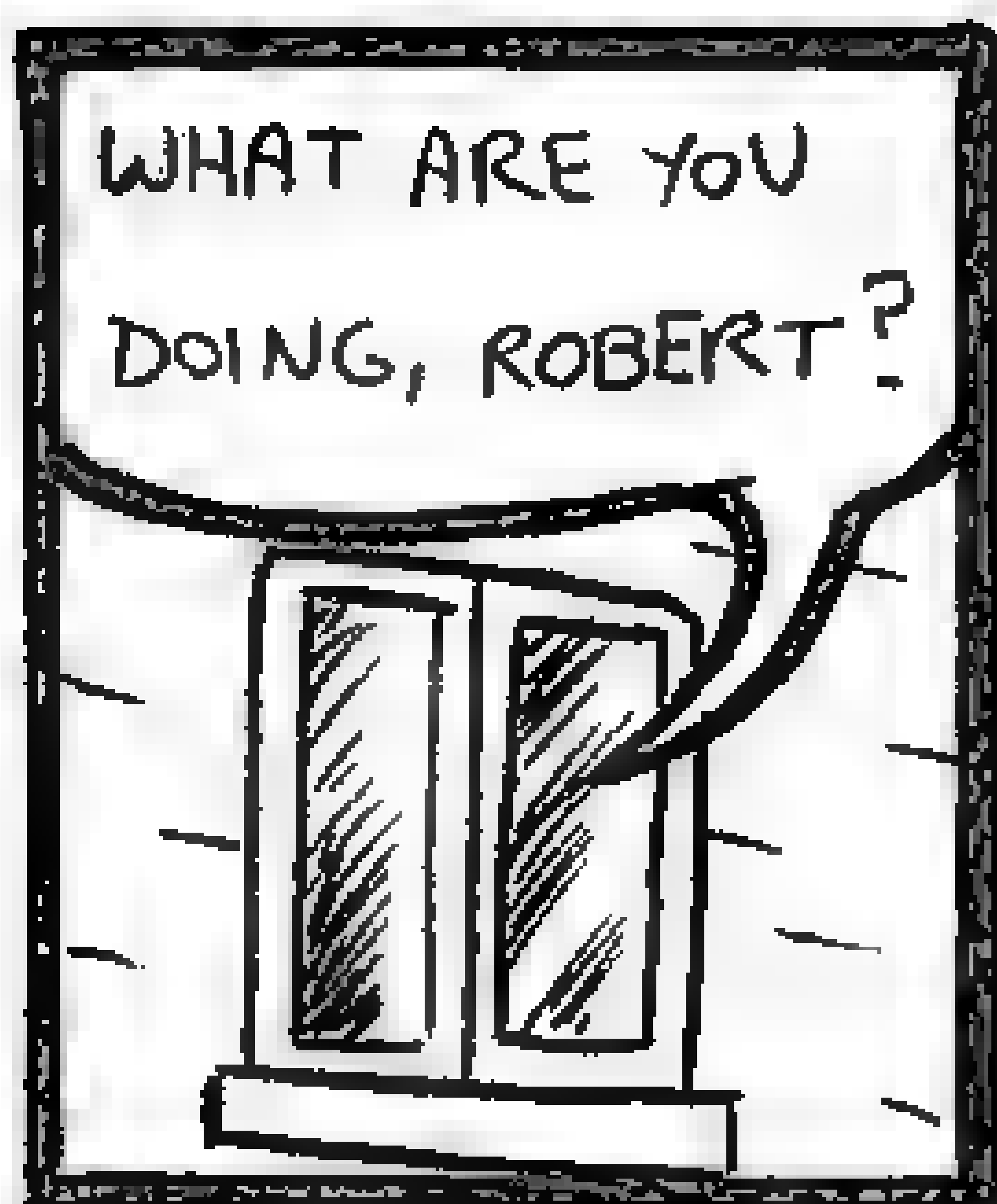


OOH... DID YOU MAKE IT YOURSELF?

HEY, YOU? ELLIE? JUST THOUGHT YOU SHOULD KNOW, BUT I'M PRETTY SURE SHE HAS NO INTEREST IN YOUR DECK.



WE DON'T EVEN HAVE A DECK...

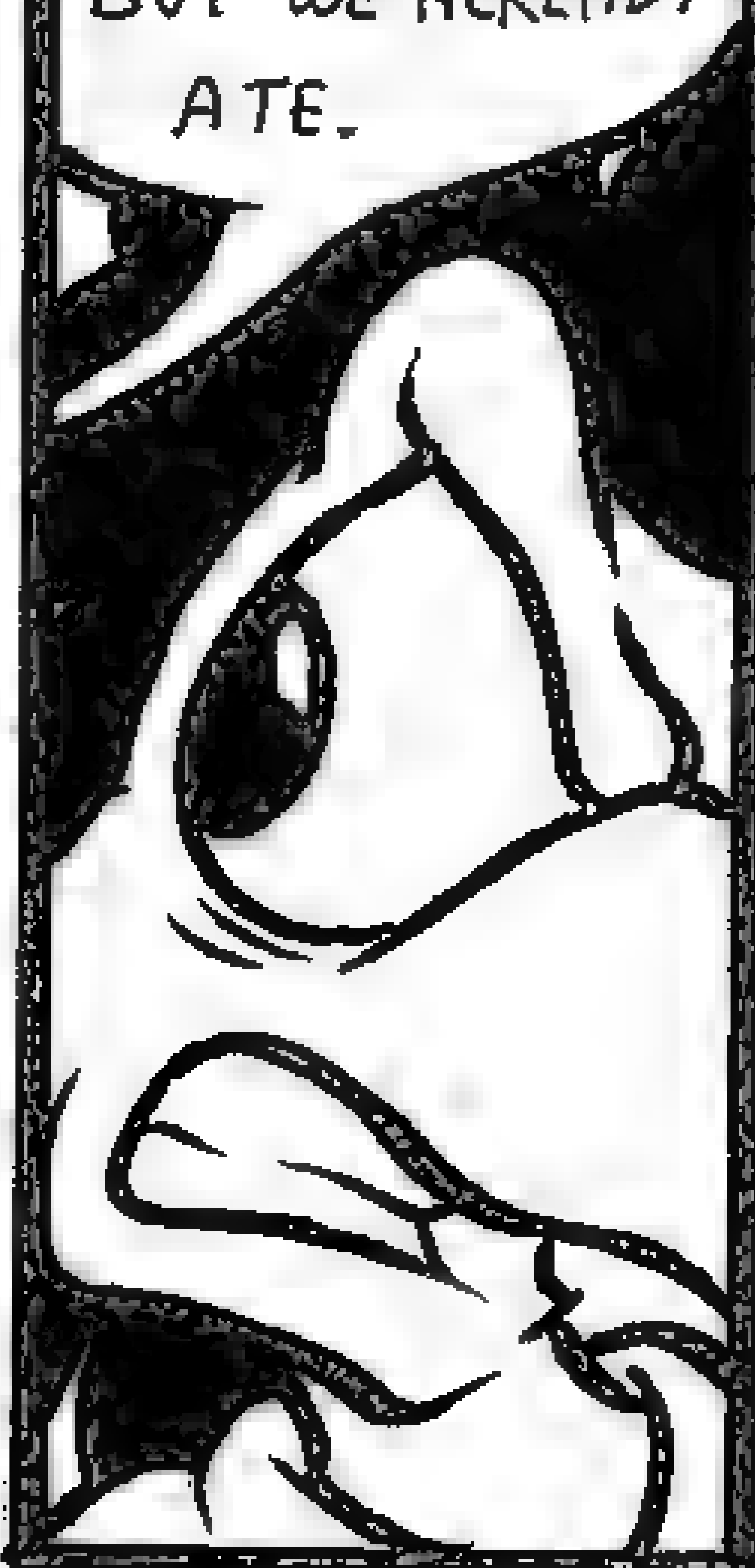


IT WAS MUCH LATER WHEN  
SHE FINALLY CAME BACK

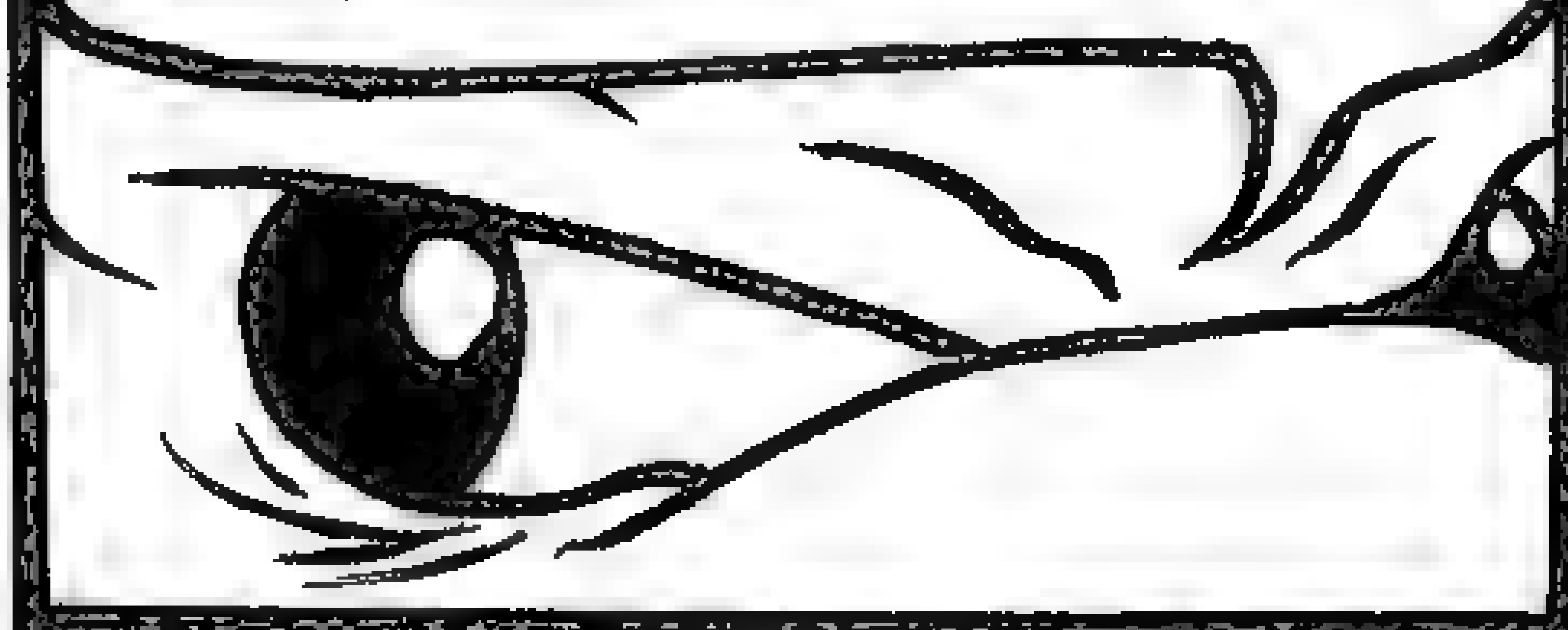
HI LISA, DINNER'S  
ALMOST READY.  
JUST NEED—

THANKS ROBBO,  
BUT WE ALREADY  
ATE.

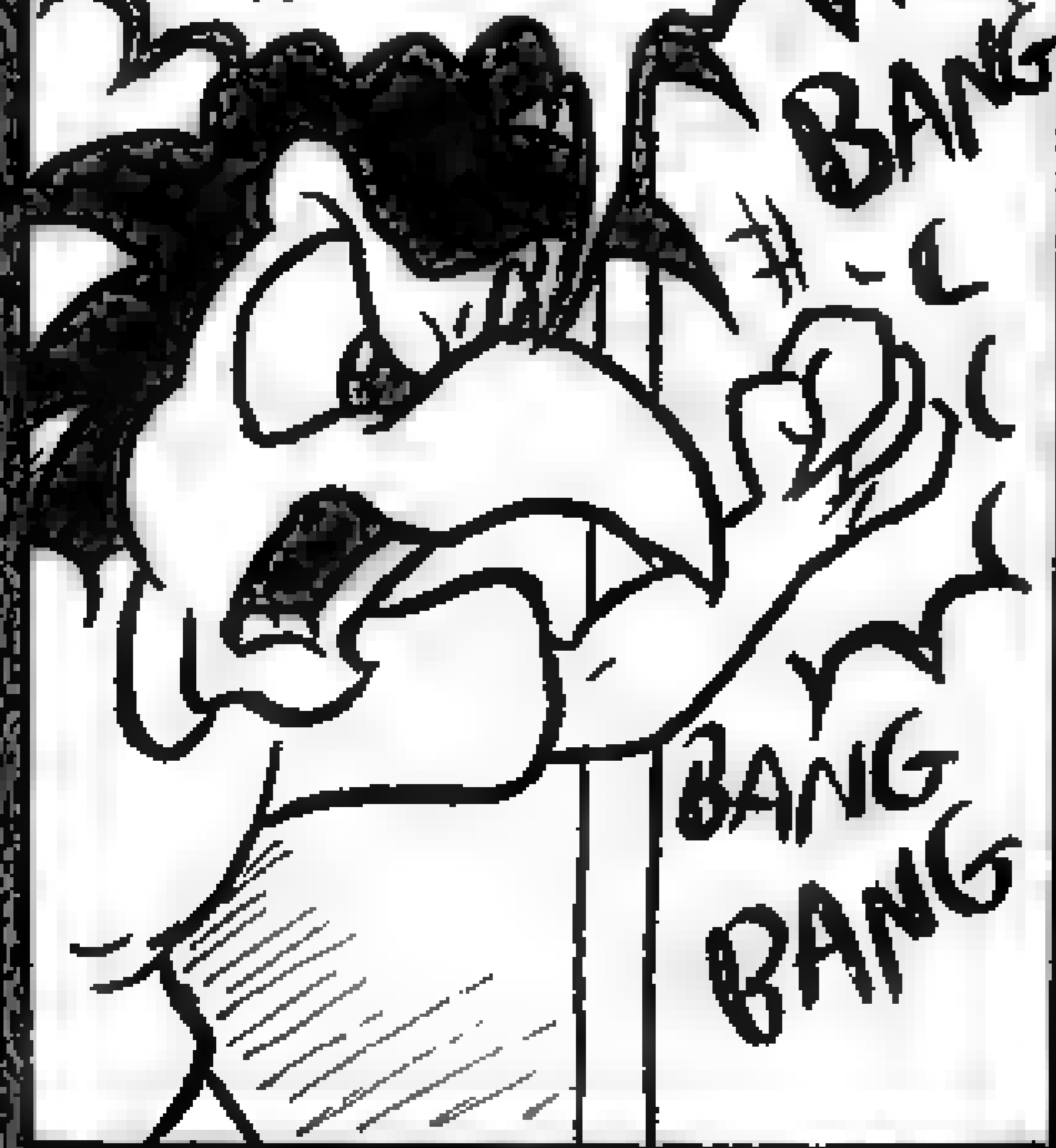
BOB, GET OUT. GO MOW THE  
LAWN OR SOMETHING.



FINE. YOU WANNA BORROW MY WIFE?  
WELL THEN....



HEY! OPEN THE DOOR!  
I KNOW YOU'RE AWAKE  
IN THERE!



YOUR HUSBAND IS AT MY PLACE, BY THE WAY...



WELL...? I JUST SAID BRANGER  
IS AT MY PLACE. WITH MY  
WIFE. AREN'T YOU GOING TO  
SAY ANYTHING TO THAT?

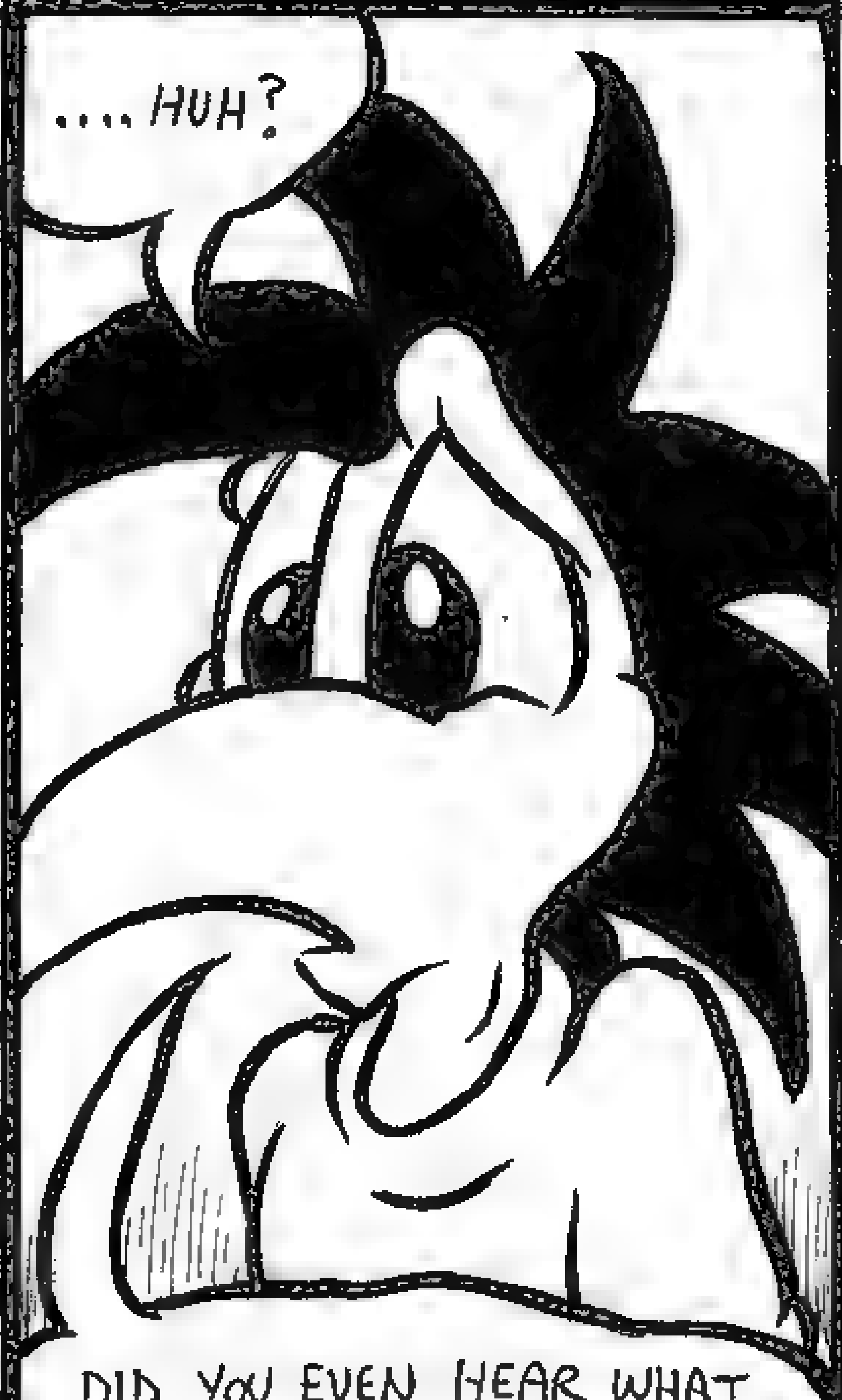


WELCOME TO  
OUR HOME.



CAN I BRING  
YOU ANYTHING?

....HUH?

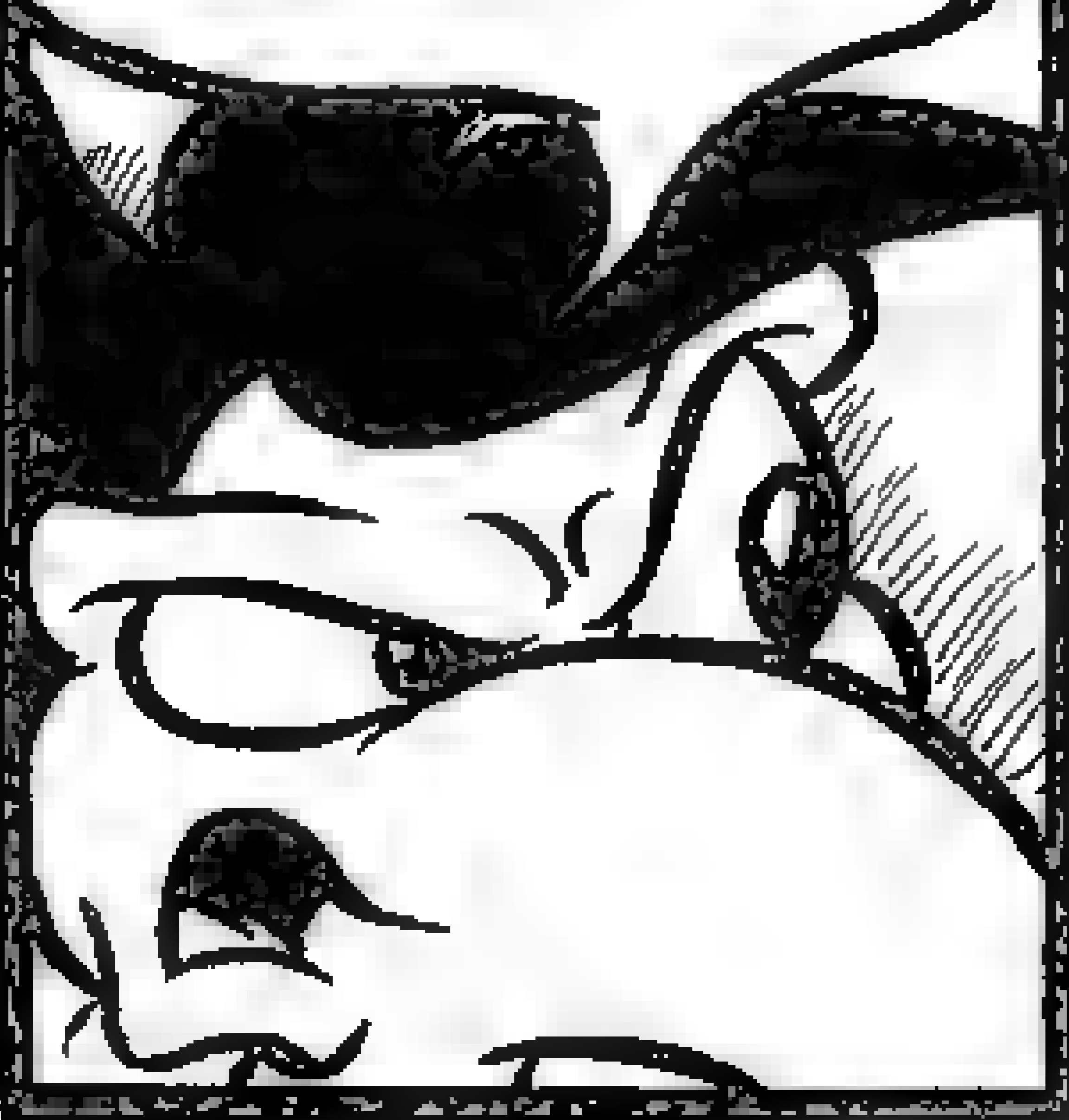


DID YOU EVEN HEAR WHAT  
I--  
...A BEER, I GUESS.

YOU KNOW WHAT THEY'RE DOING OVER THERE. I KNOW YOU DO.



THEY'RE FUCKING  
EACH OTHER.



THEY KNOW THAT  
WE KNOW.



THEY KNOW THAT  
WE KNOW.

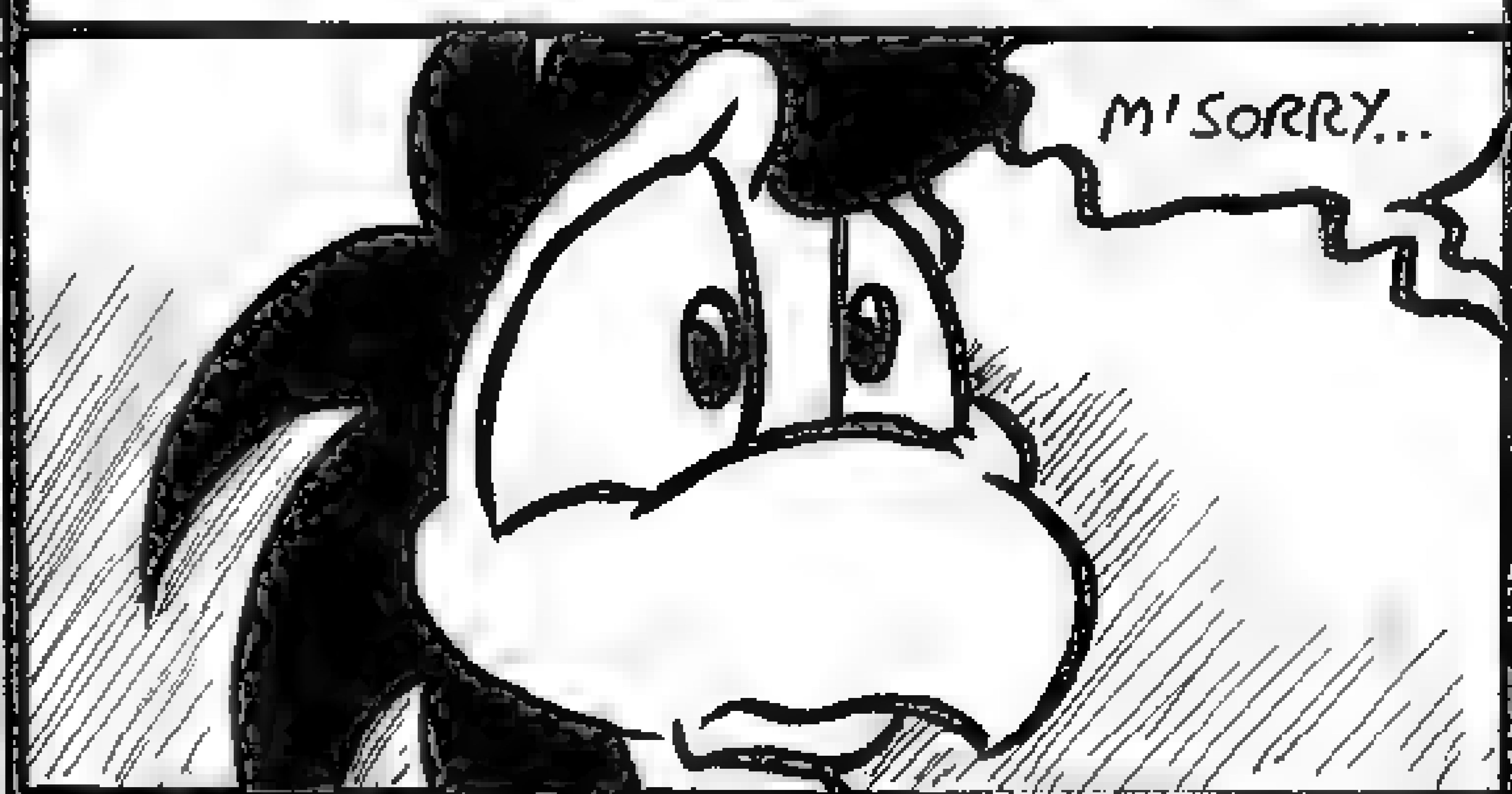


WHY DO YOU  
PUT UP WITH IT?

WHY DO  
YOU...?



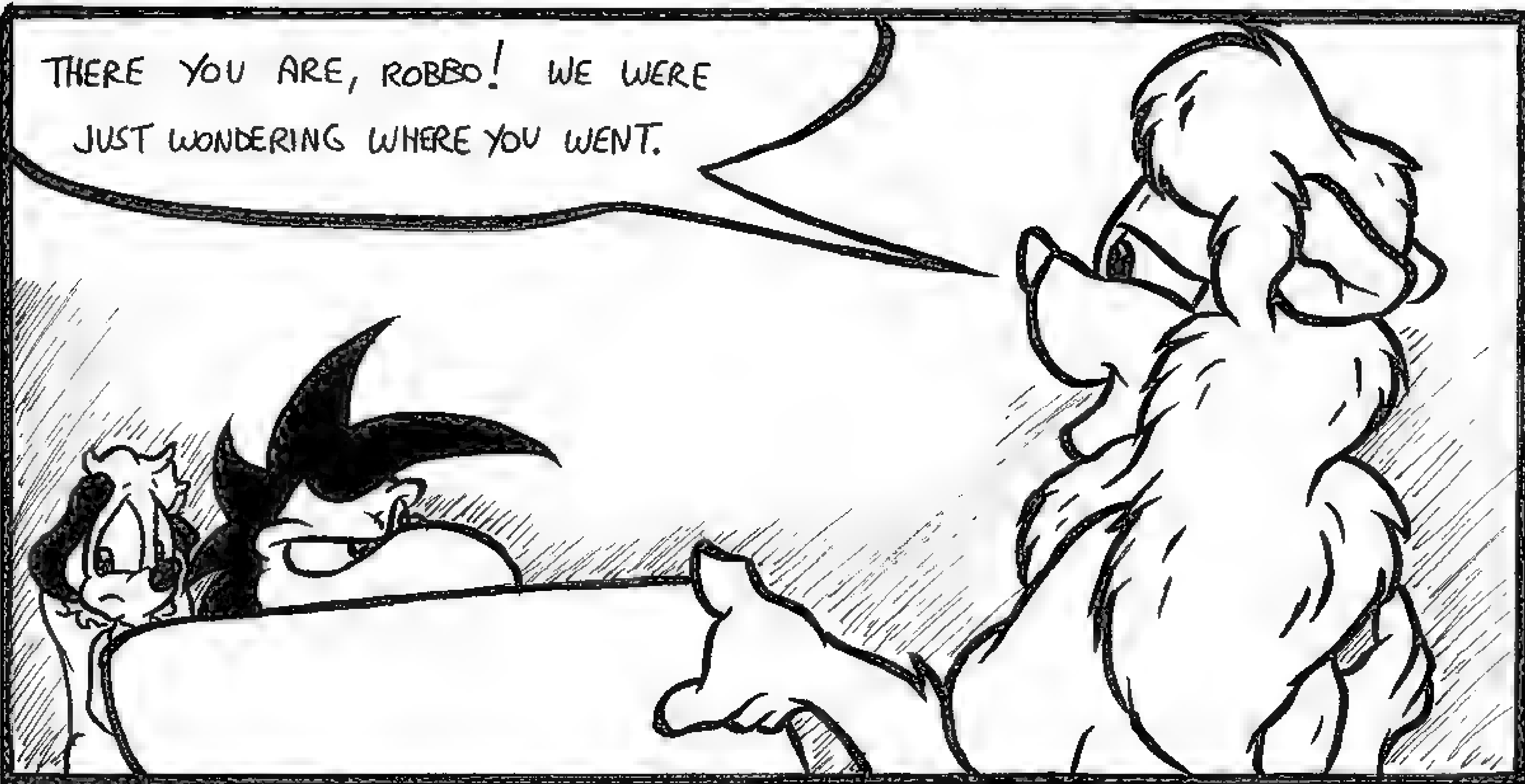
WHY DID I PUT UP WITH LISA? I'D  
NEVER THOUGHT TO ASK MYSELF. THE EASY  
ANSWER WAS BECAUSE WE WERE ON THE RUN.



M' SORRY...

BUT NOW THAT IT WAS OUT THERE, I THOUGHT  
MAYBE I COULD DO BETTER

THERE YOU ARE, ROBBO! WE WERE  
JUST WONDERING WHERE YOU WENT.





WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING HAVING A MAN OVER WHEN I'M NOT AROUND?

M'SORRY.

THOSE ARE MY BEERS, NOT YOURS, TO HAND OUT TO FRIENDS. NOT ANY BUM THAT WALKS IN OFF THE STREET!

M'SORRY.

I COULD HEAR BRANGER YELLING AT ELIE FROM 'OUR' HOUSE FOR A LONG TIME AFTER I LEFT..

HEY. I JUST WANTED TO APOLOGIZE IF I GOT YOU IN TROUBLE YESTERDAY.

THE NEXT DAY, LISA AND BRANGER WENT OUT AGAIN, SO I WENT TO CHECK ON THINGS

OH. YOU KNOW... I'M USED TO IT.

SO IS THERE ANYTHING I  
CAN DO TO MAKE IT UP TO  
YOU?



SHE FINALLY LOOKED  
UP AT ME.



IF YOU WANT... YOU COULD  
HELP ME HANG THE LAUNDRY.



WHEN LISA AND I FIRST GOT  
TOGETHER, IT SEEMED LIKE WE  
SHARED THE SAME 'UNIQUE'  
INTERESTS. BUT THAT DOESN'T  
SEEM TO BE CUTTING IT ANY-  
MORE. NOW WE JUST FIGHT  
ABOUT EVERYTHING.

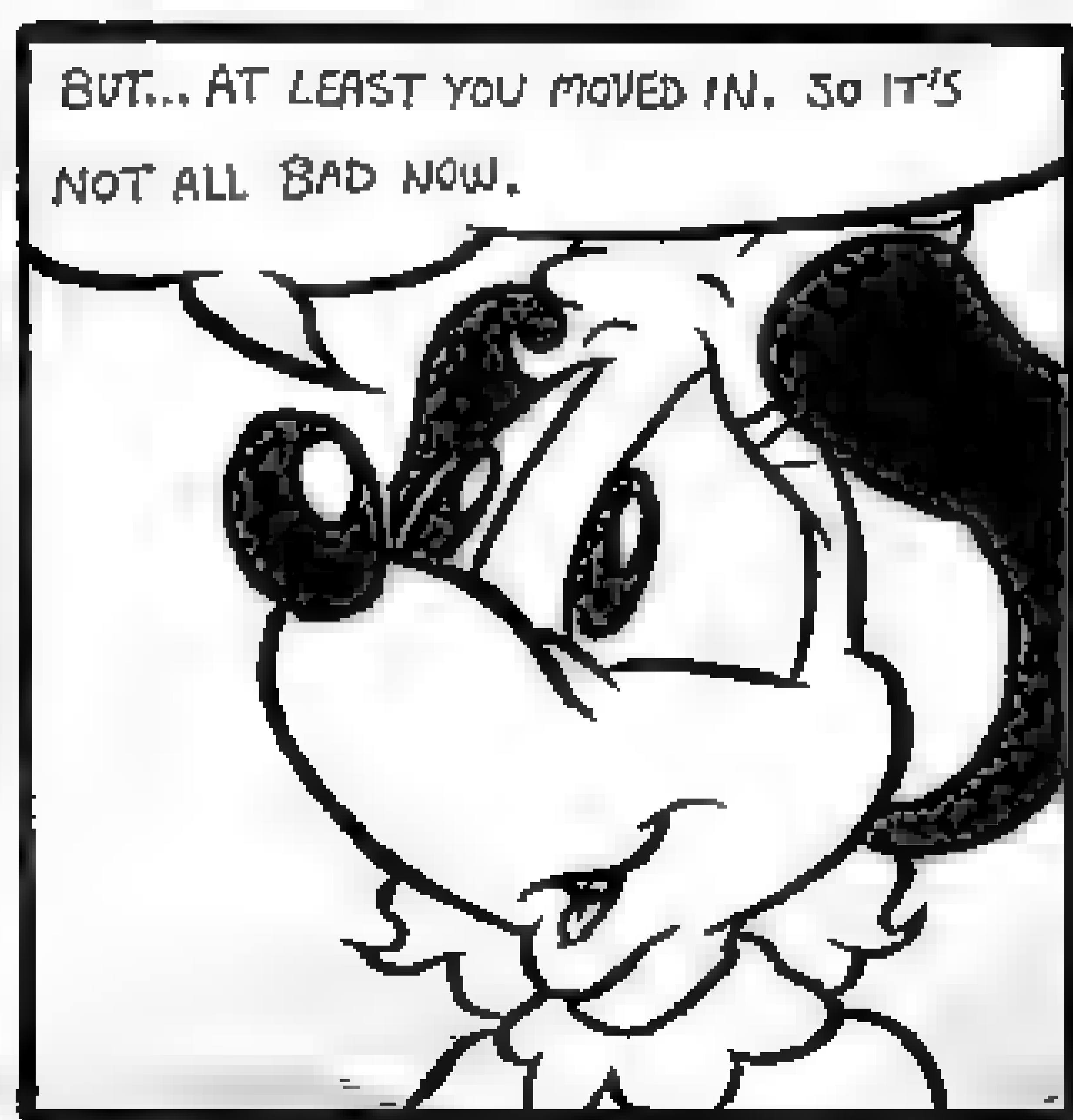


FOR THE FIRST COUPLE YEARS, BRANGER  
WAS GOOD TO ME. BUT... THAT CHANGED AFTER  
WE RELOCATED FOR HIS NEW JOB. I TRIED TO  
TELL MYSELF I WAS IMAGINING IT WHEN HE FIRST  
STARTED CHEATING.



AT SOME POINT, I GUESS HE REALIZED I WAS  
WILLING TO LOOK THE OTHER WAY BECAUSE HE  
STOPPED TRYING TO HIDE IT...





UNLESS YOU LIKE SLEEPING ON  
THE DAMNED COUCH, YOU'D BETTER  
CALL IT OFF. NOW!



I'VE GOTTEN USED TO THE COUCH  
FOR ONE THING, I DON'T HAVE TO SLEEP  
IN THE WET SPOT YOU AND THE NEIGHBOR  
LEAVE IN THE BED.



GOODNIGHT,  
DEAR.



THE NEXT DAY, I'M BACK WITH ELIE WHILE LISA AND BRANGER ARE AWAY.

I WAS THINKING  
ABOUT IT LAST  
NIGHT AND... I  
REALLY THINK I'M  
READY TO LEAVE  
LISA.



I'M SORRY TO HEAR,  
BOB. I HOPE THINGS  
GET BETTER FOR  
YOU.



ELIE, IF YOU THINK YOU'RE  
READY TO LEAVE BRANGER TOO, I'LL  
GIVE YOU THE MONEY FOR A ONE-  
WAY TICKET BACK HOME.



I'LL NEED TO THINK  
ON IT, BUT... I WANT  
TO TAKE YOU UP ON IT.  
I REALLY DO.



WELL, IN THE MEANTIME,  
HERE'S MY WALLET.  
KEEP THE CHANGE.



IF I GET BACK HOME, I HOPE  
YOU'LL VISIT SOMEDAY.



EHH...PROBABLY NOT. THE ONLY  
WAY I'M GETTING AWAY FROM  
LISA IS TO TURN MYSELF IN  
TO THE POLICE.

AND WHEN I DO THAT,  
THEY'LL...



...DEPORT ME. I WAS  
NEVER HERE LEGALLY,  
I'M AFRAID,



NO NEED TO RUIN THE  
MOMENT WITH THE TRUTH

EVEN THOUGH LYING  
TO HER RUINED IT  
JUST AS NICELY



I'M SORRY, BOB.

I REMEMBER WISHING  
DESPERATELY THAT SHE  
WOULD NEVER, EVER FIND  
OUT.

... AND I HATE  
MYSELF FOR IT.



I'M STILL MARRIED  
SO ARE YOU.



EVEN IF THEY  
CAN DO IT...



....NO.

... THAT DOESN'T  
MEAN WE SHOULD  
TOO.

PLEASE

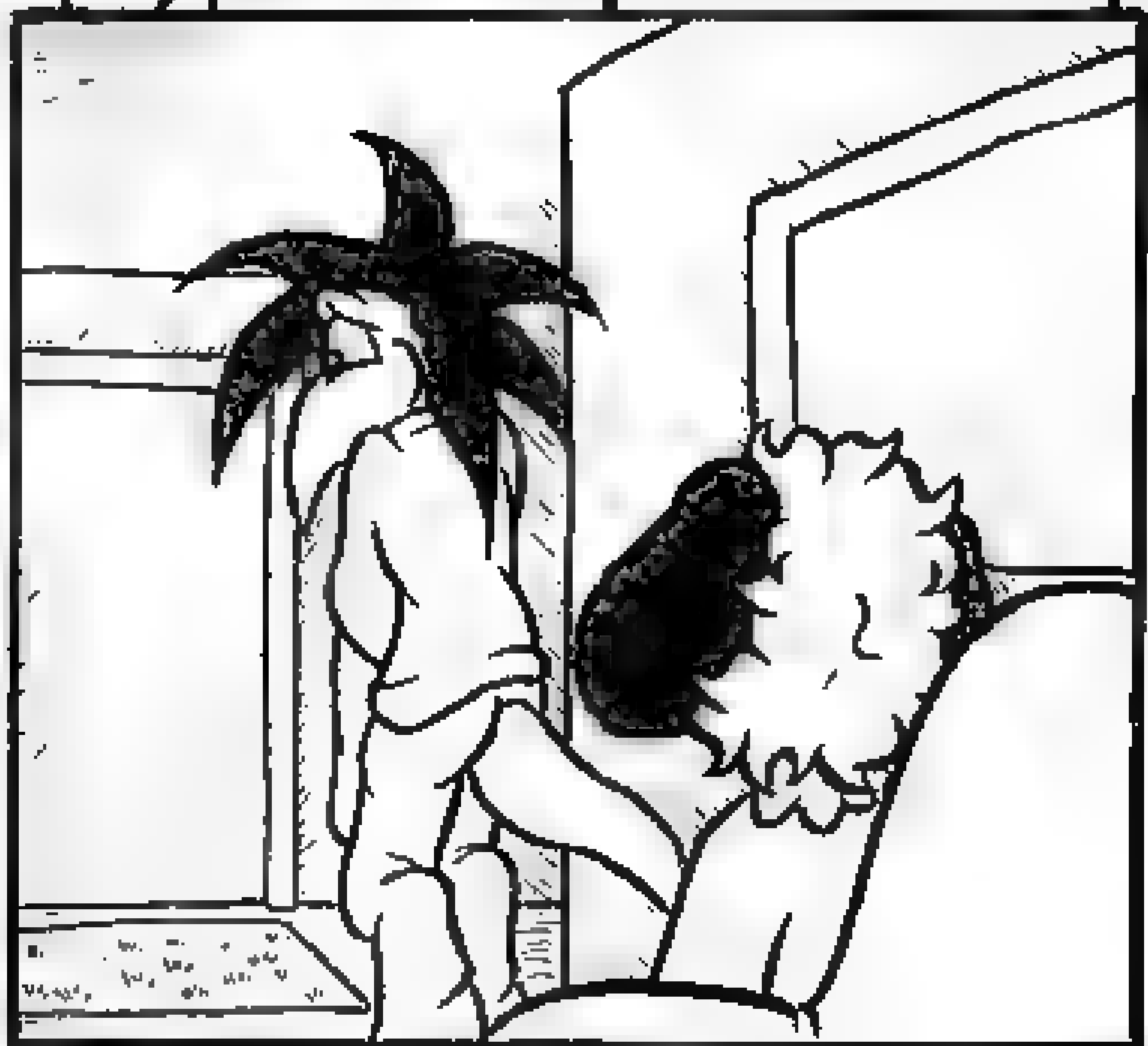


NOW I WAS THE  
ONE WHO COULDN'T  
LOOK HER IN THE EYES



I- I'M SORRY, ELIE.

I SHOULD GO.



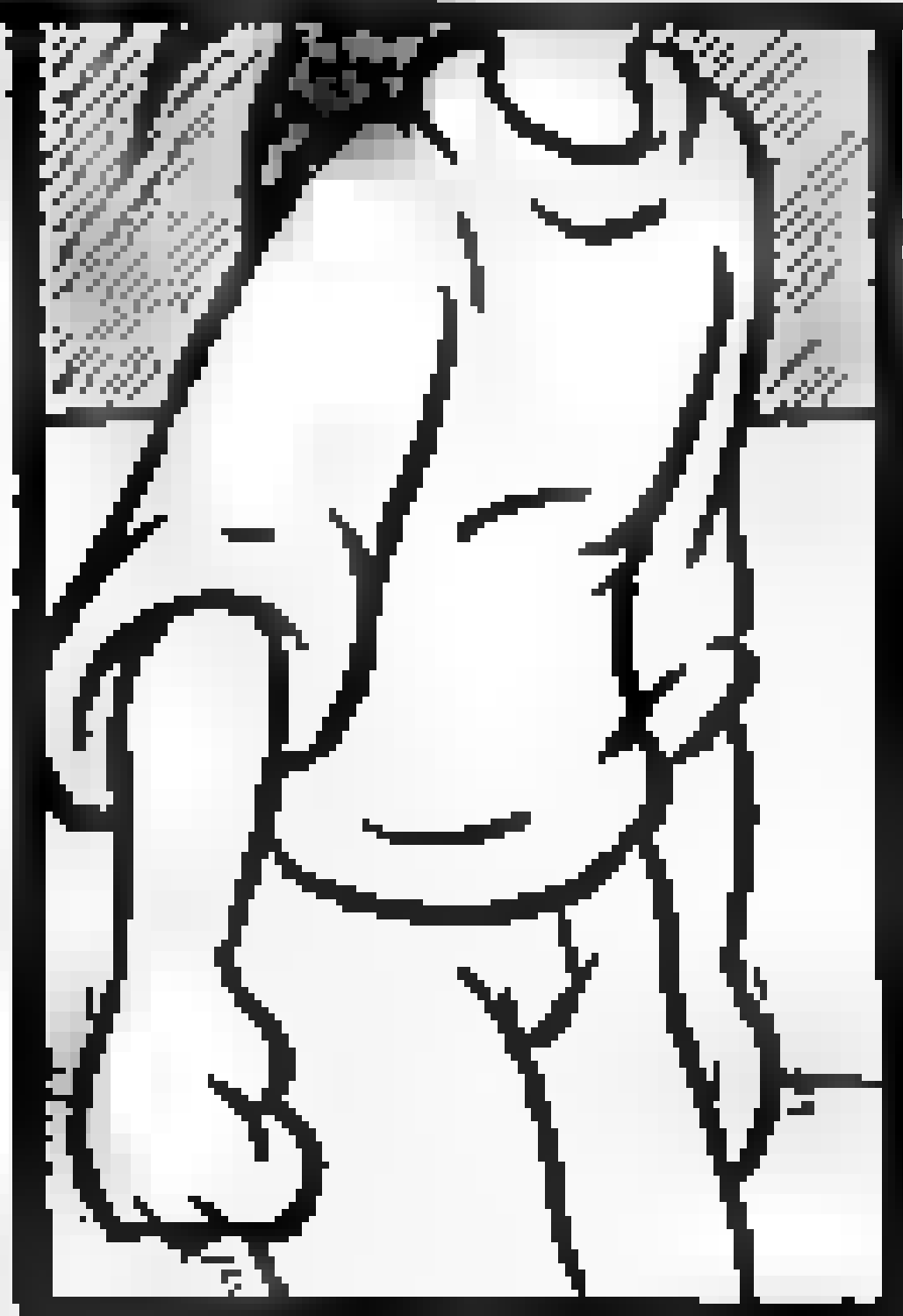
THAT NIGHT IN  
MY STOLEN HOME

ALONE ON THE  
COUCH.

I COULDN'T STOP THINKING  
ABOUT ELIE.



MY EVENTUAL THOUGHT WAS THAT SINCE I WAS GOING TO TURN MYSELF IN  
ANYWAY I MAY AS WELL DO ONE LAST THING, SOMETHING THAT WOULD MAKE SURE  
SHE WENT HOME.



THE NEXT MORNING, I WOKE  
UP TO THE SMELL OF LISA'S  
COOKING AND WONDERED WHAT  
THE OCCASION WAS.



LISA?

OH GOOD, YOU'RE UP! HURRY AND  
GET IN HERE BEFORE IT GETS  
COLD, ROBERT.



SHE MADE IT DIFFICULT  
TO REMEMBER ..



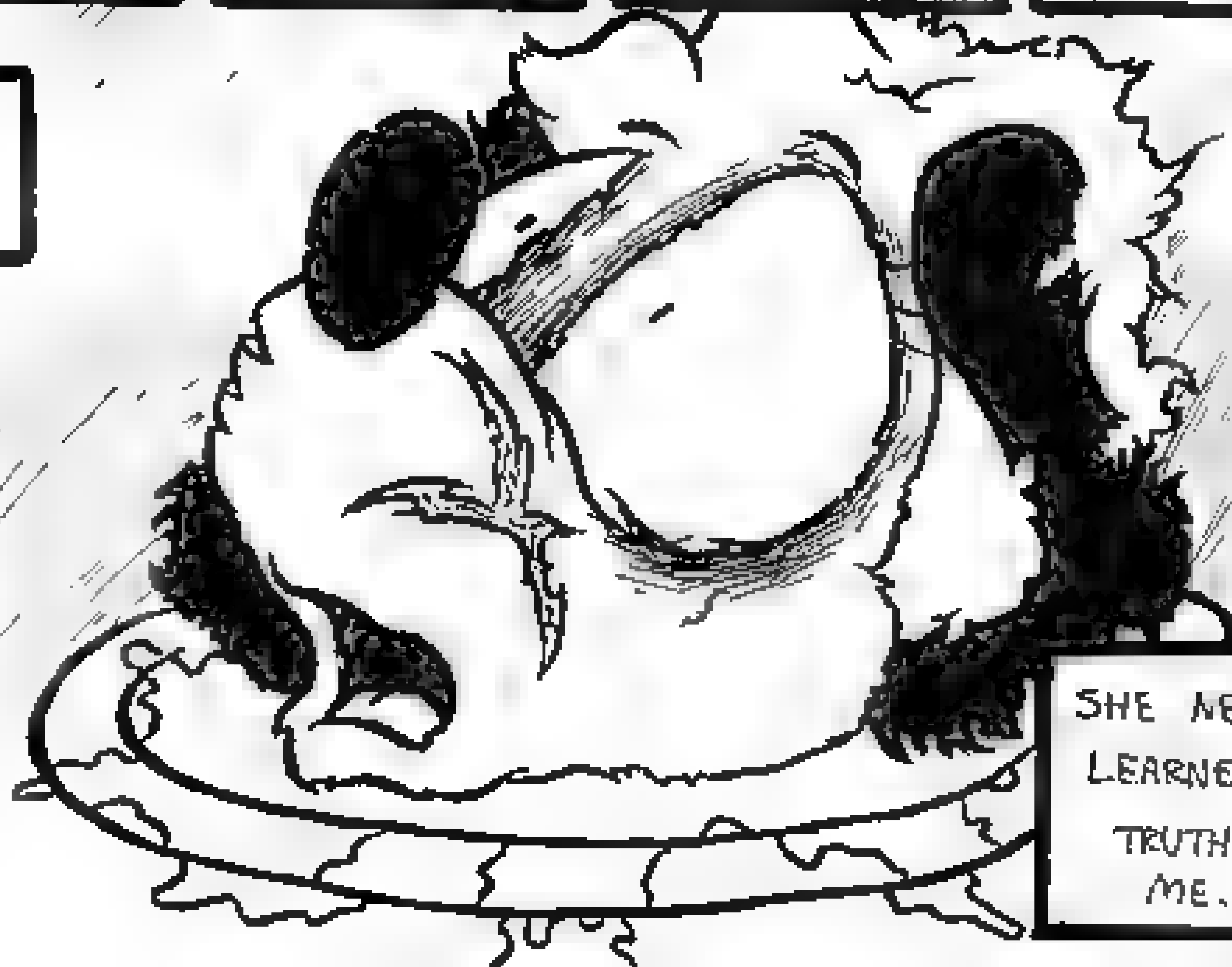
BUT LISA COULD, AT  
TIMES, BE VERY GOOD TO  
ME.



... THIS WASN'T ONE OF  
THOSE TIMES..



WISH  
GRANTED.



SHE NEVER  
LEARNED THE  
TRUTH ABOUT  
ME.

SHE HAD YOUR WALLET, ROBERT.



YOU NEVER STRUCK  
ME AS PATHETIC  
ENOUGH TO PAY FOR  
IT.



NOTHING TO SAY?



FINE. IT'S EASIER IF YOU DON'T TALK  
ANYWAY. I'M LEAVING YOU, ROBERT.  
BRANGER IS SELLING HIS HOUSE  
AND TAKING ME WITH HIM FAR  
AWAY FROM THIS MESS. I'VE HAD

ENOUGH OF  
IT.



IF HE EVER FINDS OUT  
ABOUT MY LIFE WITH  
YOU, I'LL KILL HIM AND  
MOVE ON. I'LL  
SURVIVE.



YOU, ON THE OTHER  
HAND, HAVE NO CHANCE  
OF STAYING AHEAD OF  
THE POLICE WITHOUT  
ME.



HAVE A GOOD LIFE, ROBERT. IT DIDN'T  
HAVE TO BE LIKE THIS, YOU KNOW. IF  
YOU HADN'T BEEN SUCH A SHIT, MAYBE-

BEFORE YOU GO,  
LISA...

DON'T YOU WANT TO  
TAKE THOSE LEFTOARS  
IN THE FREEZER  
WITH YOU?

NO, NO,  
NO, NO...

NO!

ROBERT  
VORSH  
YOU SON OF  
A  
BITCH!



HE WAS MY TICKET OUT!  
AWAY FROM THIS LIFE YOU  
TRAPPED ME IN! AWAY  
FROM YOU!

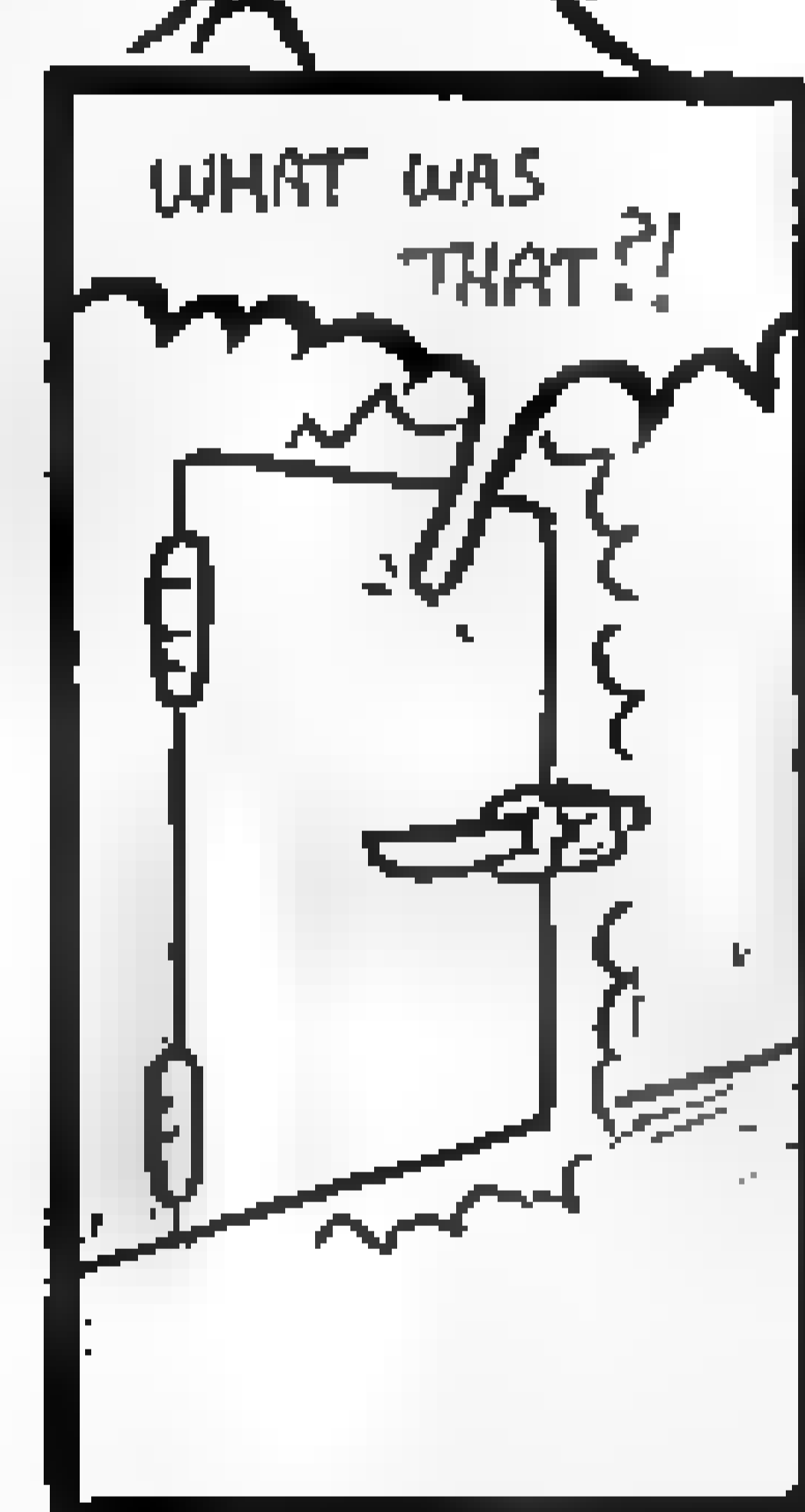
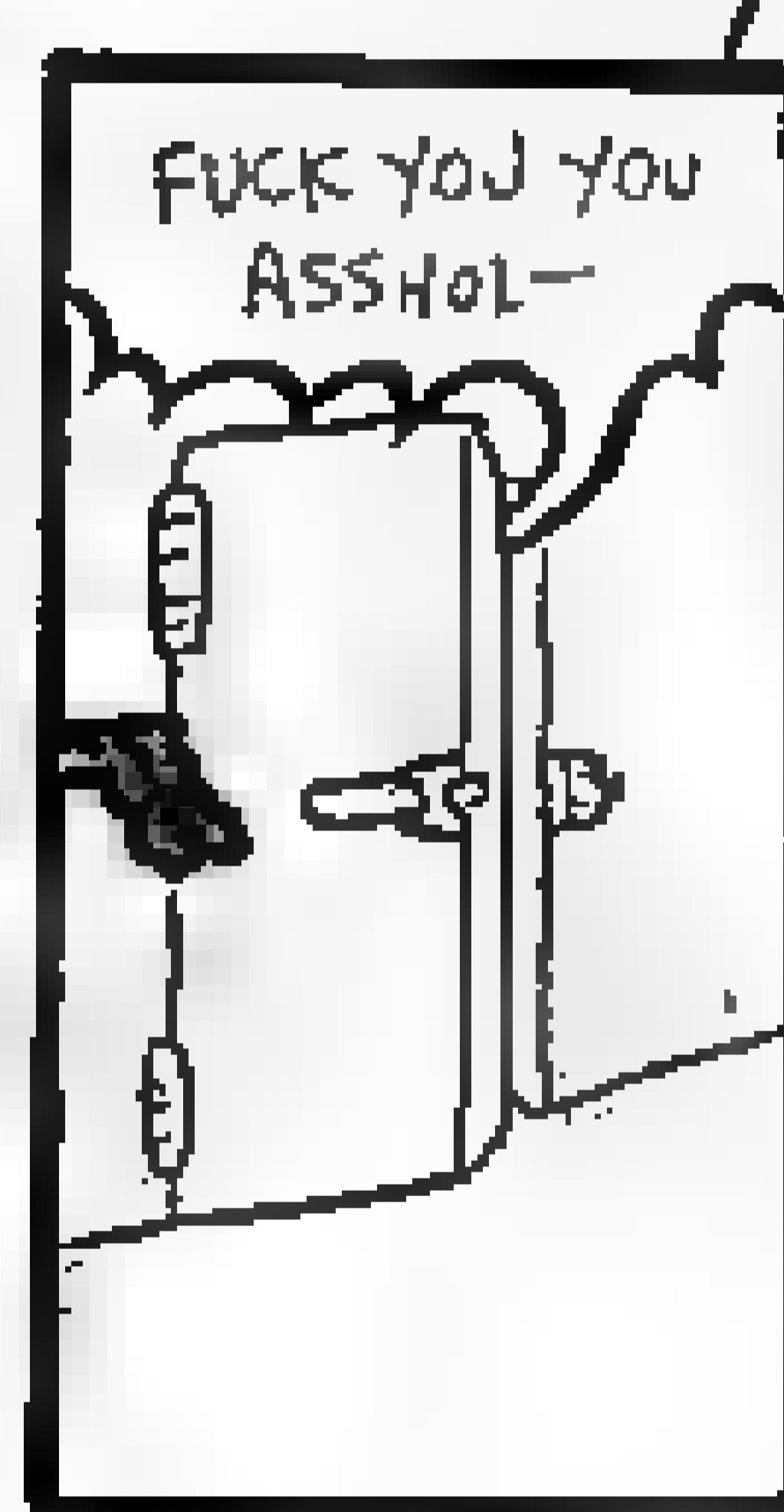
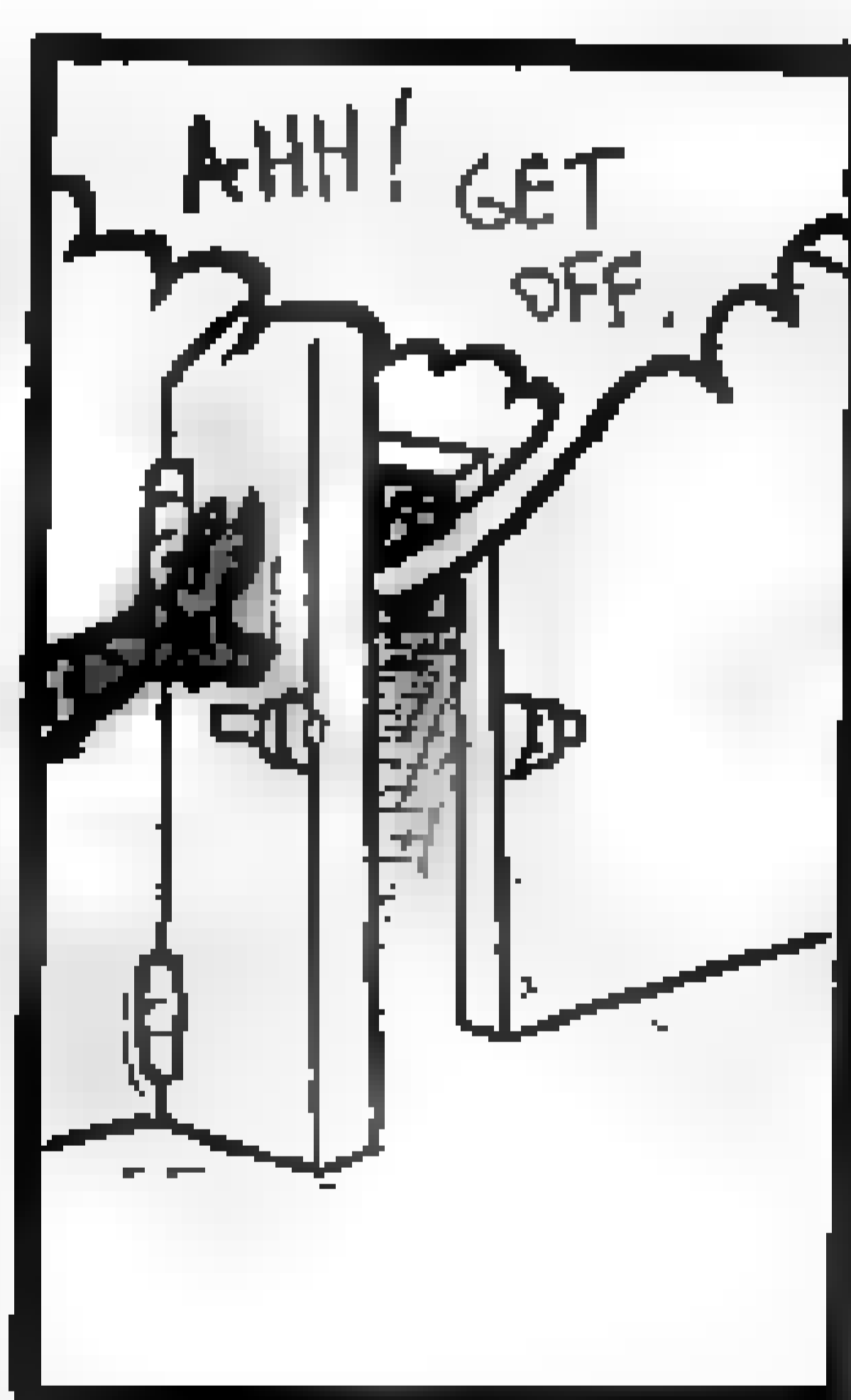
OWN YOUR PART IN  
IT, LISA. ITS A LIFE  
THAT YOU HELPED MAKE.



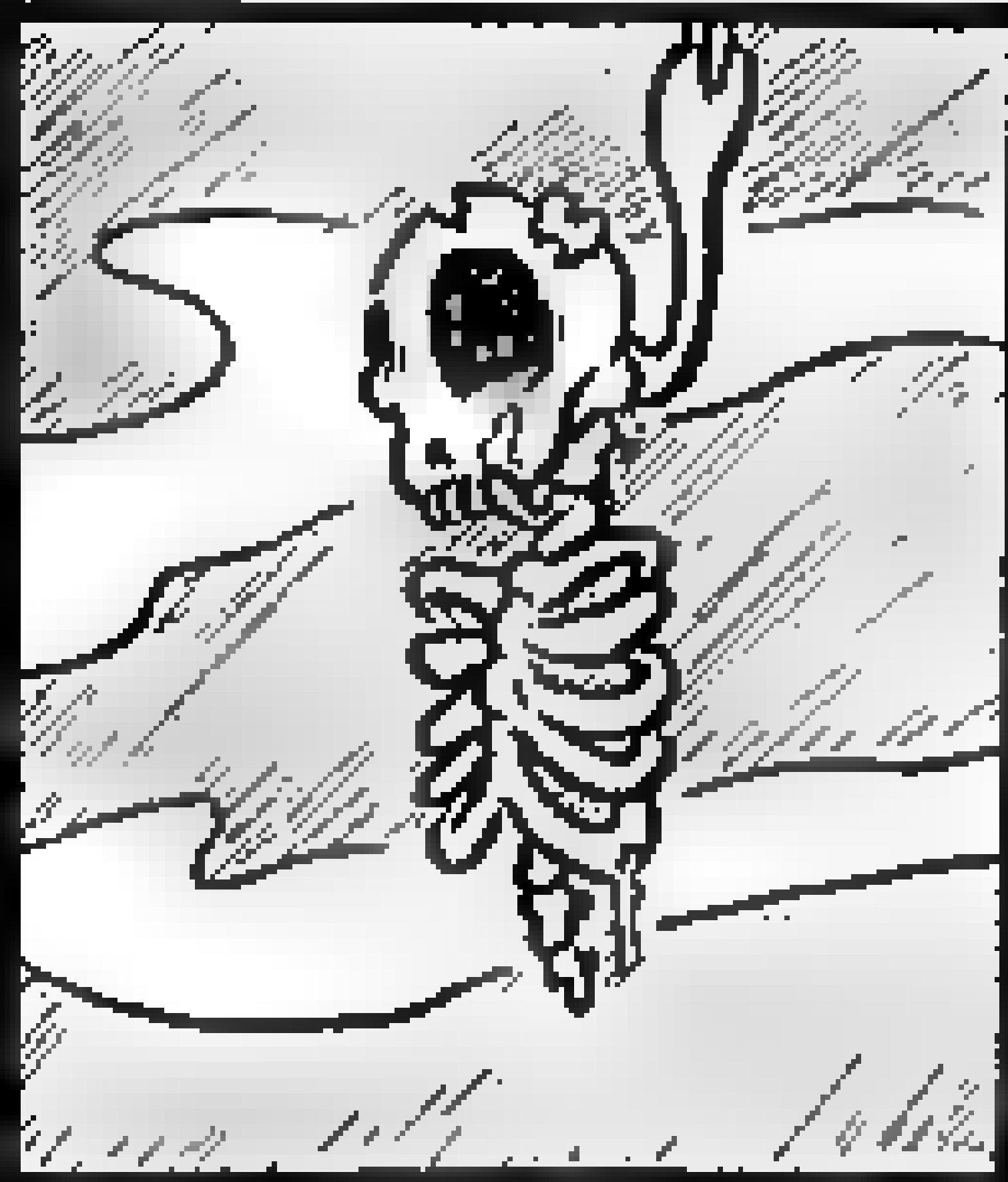
SOMEDAY YOU'RE GOING TO  
UNDERSTAND, JUST LIKE I HAD TO,  
THAT PEOPLE LIKE US...



... ARE DAMNED TO BE TOGETHER  
FOREVER.



WE WERE TRAPPED IN THE FREEZER FOR DAYS. THE FOOD WAS QUICKLY EATEN



EVEN THE SYNTH MEAT. WE DIDN'T EAT TO SURVIVE, WE ATE TO MAKE SURE THE OTHER DIDN'T GET IT.



LISA EVEN WENT SO FAR AS TO MAKE A CAPE OUT OF WHAT WAS LEFT OF BRANGER JUST TO TRY AND OUTLAST ME.



WHAT HAPPENED LAST WAS INEVITABLE.

SO WHAT DO YOU THINK IT WILL BE? WILL WE FREEZE, SUFFOCATE, OR STARVE FIRST?



YOU CAN DIE HOWEVER YOU LIKE...

BUT, I'M NOT GOING TO STARVE, ROBERT.



TO BE CLEAR, I'M NOT HERE FOR YOUR REVOLUTION. I DON'T CARE ABOUT REDEMPTION, AND I AM NOT FOR ANY OF WHAT YOU'RE DOING.



... I AM AGAINST HER!

I DON'T THINK I NEED TO TELL YOU THAT'S A FLIMSY REASON AND A ONE-SIDED STORY, BUT WE AREN'T IN A POSITION TO REFUSE ALLIES. YOU WILL BE WATCHED CAREFULLY, YOU WILL HAVE NO AUTHORITY, AND YOU ARE NOT TO DEVOUR ANY SOULS WHO HAVE SIDED WITH US.



RECKONIN? WILL YOU ACCOMPANY MR. VORSH TO THESE "PIPELINES" HE SPOKE OF?



OF COURSE.

YOU CLOSED THEM IN THE FREEZER AND KEPT THEM FROM ESCAPING?

I DID. I WAS WITNESS TO THE DEATHS OF ALL SEVEN SINS AND HELPED TO REMOVE FIVE OF THEM FROM EARTH.

ONCE THEY'RE BEYOND ANY HOPE OF REDEMPTION TO THE POINT THAT THEIR SIN HAS BECOME THEIR GREATEST WEAPON, I ENSURE THEY KEEP THEIR APPOINTMENT WITH YOU. IT'S ONE OF THE BURDENS OF BEING THE HIGHWING ANGEL. I DON'T TAKE IT LIGHTLY.

HEAVEN HELP THE LIVING IF ANY OF US HAD BECOME RUNNERS OR MISSED OUR CHANCE TO GO.

ALL THE SAME, IT DRAINS ME.

JACK, AFTER THIS BUSINESS BETWEEN YOU AND KANE IS DONE WITH, I'M GOING TO STEP DOWN.

BUT I THINK I COULD WAIT A LITTLE LONGER TO RESIGN KNOWING YOU WERE BACK ON EARTH AND WERE WILLING TO TAKE OVER ONCE YOU'VE REDEEMED YOURSELF

... BUT WHY ME?



HELLO, MR. VORSH...?

THAT UGLY SPAWN OF LUST'S WARNED ME YOU'D PESTER ME. FUCK OFF.



LISTEN TO ME. I OVERHEARD SOME OF YOUR STORY AND WENT LOOKING FOR ELIE.

WHAT?! WHY DID YOU DO THAT??



WELL, SHE WASN'T IN HEAVEN

WHY NOT?!

BECAUSE SHE ASKED TO GO BACK. SHE SAID SHE WASN'T HAPPY WITH WHO SHE'D TURNED INTO AND THAT SHE WANTED TO DO BETTER.




SHE SAID SHE'D MET SOMEONE SPECIAL JUST BEFORE SHE WAS KILLED WHO OPENED HER EYES BUT SHE DIDN'T HAVE THE TIME TO ACT ON HIS ADVICE. I THINK SHE WAS TALKING ABOUT YOU.

HRNH...




WELL, HOT SHIT FOR HER, I GUESS.

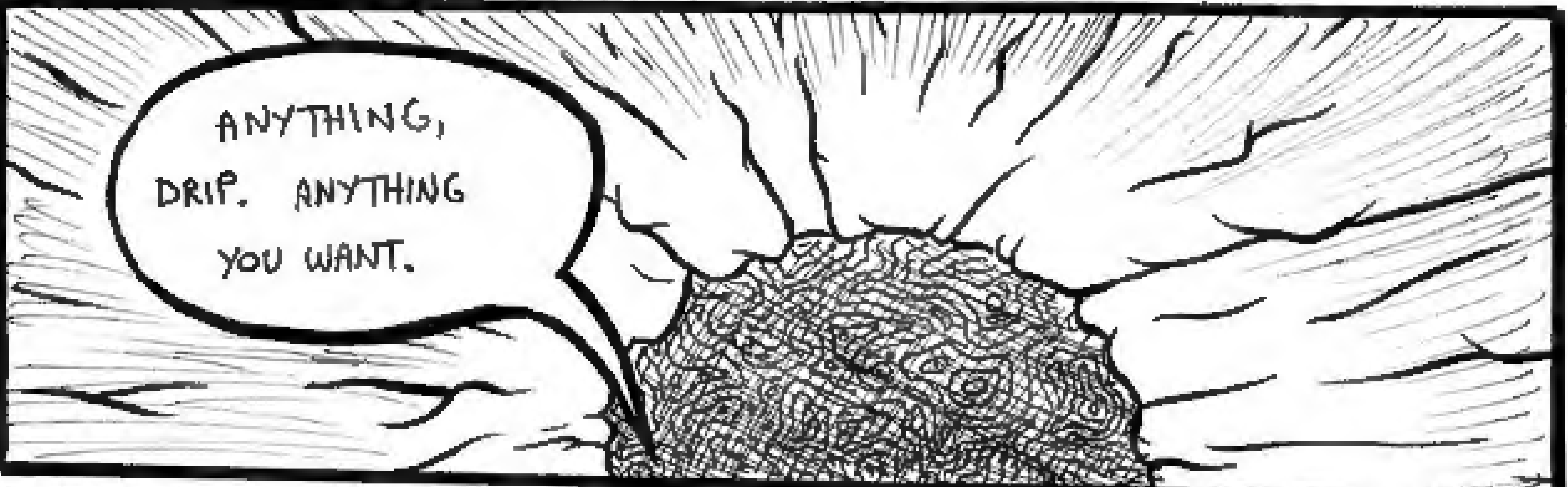
YOU COMING OR WHAT, ANGEL? IT'LL BE DARK SOON.




SEE? YOU SEE?  
MY FRIEND CAME  
BACK



KNEW  
HE WOULD  
COME BACK



ANYTHING,  
DRIP. ANYTHING  
YOU WANT.



AS LONG  
AS I GET TO  
HAVE LITA IN  
THE END...

TTFN

2/7/14 0215 PST